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# 19 Services business managers graduate from Michigan State

By Jimmy Johnson  
AFSVA

Recently, 19 Air Force Services business managers, flight chiefs and headquarters staff graduated from the Advance Business Management Program at The School of Hospitality Business, Michigan State University. This is the fourth class to graduate from MSU since the program was reactivated in 2001, and the first class to include bowling center and golf course managers.

The graduates were: Marilyn Gove, Kevin Johnson, Maureen Niska, Juan Conde, Jack Sweet, Kimberly Sullivan, Nicole Cote, Susan Hansen, Julie Tinseth, Jerry Cwynar, Charissa Jarrett, Patty Ray, Von Allen, Edward Fitzhenry, Jeff Rickert, Tom Muscutt, Dan Hayes, Bo Linder and Jason Cohol.

The Advanced Business Management Program is a rigorous but rewarding 2-week course curriculum for mid-career Air Force Services business managers.

The course provides an opportunity to return to a university environment learning skills and techniques for improving customer/member satisfaction and profitability.

Courses consisted of, but were not limited to such topics as Strategic Planning for Food and Beverage Operations, Service Excellence, Business Technology, Teamwork and Leadership Dynamics, Human Resources, Communicating Smarter, Increasing Profits through Internal Controls,

Creating Fun Work Environments, Financial Planning & Budgeting, Business Operations Management, Financial Analysis, Beverage Industry Trends, Time Management and Healthy Lifestyles.

The program also included two off-site field trips with a facilitator, and one group activity.

This program incorporates and continues the partnership between Air Force Services and the Broad College of Business at MSU.

## News & Views

The **News & Views** is published periodically by the Air Force Services Agency. Send comments, suggestions or submissions to:

**submissions @agency.afsv.af.mil or steve.vanwert @agency.afsv.af.mil.**

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For back issues, go to <http://www-p.afsv.af.mil/PA/ArchivedNews.htm>.



# Revenue Division taking shape under NAF-Transformation

By Joy Berbersek  
AFSVA

**The Revenue Division** (HQ AFSVA/SVTR) currently has a staff of 12, and we're divided into two branches; the Accounts Receivable Branch and the Credits & Collections Branch.

Our job is to ensure the timely, accurate and complete collection of revenues from Services resale activities, dues, memberships and fees.

**The Accounts Receivable Branch** ensures prompt, accurate, reliable, and complete collection and accounting for revenues owed to AFSVA; transactions are from credit (charge) sales of merchandise and services, and dues and fees to be charged for which payment is anticipated at a later date.

Once bases are on the new Air Force Services Financial Management System, we'll maintain AR subsidiaries including unearned income if the base does not use a POS, and report delinquent accounts to the Credit & Collections Branch. We'll be the first stop in the automated process for all electronic and POS interfaced AF Forms 1876 and supporting subsidiaries.

We're actively training, testing and developing procedures, so we're ready to serve our customers when AFSFMS is deployed.

**The Credits & Collections Branch** acts as the centralized debt collector for all debts incurred at any Services facility worldwide.

We have two programs dedicated to process debts: RCK (Returned Checks) and TOP (Treasury Offset Program). When checks are rejected by our central bank for insufficient funds, they're sent to SVTRC and we process them to be presented to the bank two more times – on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

We've gone from RCK-clearing successes of 49 percent when local base banks were involved, to 70 percent when our main bank did the re-presentments, to as high as 80.5 percent in August with our in-house dual re-presentments.

We've collected more than \$140,000 in returned check fees in fiscal 2005.

When checks fail the last re-presentment (and for all other debts), we send them to TOP. The Treasury office will attempt to offset

(collect) the debt from any federal monies due the debtor (federal salary, income tax refunds, pensions, etc.). Once collected, TOP sends us the money and we, in turn, forward the money on to the base where the debt was incurred.

We send a letter to the debtor's last known address giving him or her 60-days to clear the debt before we send the debt on to TOP for collection.

The Treasury office also sends a due-process letter to the debtor letting him/her know what agency is owed the debt and from what federal money (i.e., income tax refund) the debt will be offset.

We continue to increase our collection rates through RCK and TOPs, to ensure that Service's base activities benefit directly from our continued success.

## Yee Haw! Steak night goes country

Master Sgt. Richard Roneree and Tech. Sgt. Blake Callais of the 66th Mission Support Squadron cook steaks during Steak Night at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., The Club recently. The evening's Country and Western theme also featured an appearance by Miss Rodeo USA 2005, Johanna Blackwell. Photo by Master Sgt. Lorenzo Marsala



# Expeditionary Service with a smile

**By Staff Sgt. Carlos Diaz**  
**386th Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs**

The 386th Expeditionary Services Squadron provides agile combat support capability and improved productivity through programs such as food service, fitness and recreation.

"These vital programs help to accomplish the 386th ESVS mission by promoting readiness, esprit de corps and quality of life to all U.S. deployed personnel and coalition partners," said Maj. David Andino-Aquino, 386th ESVS commander.

To accomplish their mission, the 386th ESVS must meticulously perform behind-the-scene planning, coordination and logistical requirements.

"The logistics of (386th ESVS) is enormous, especially in the food service arena," Major Andino-Aquino said.

The 386th ESVS orders, receives, prepares and distributes more than \$3 million worth of subsistence products a month, that total more than 1,200 different line items of inventory, weighing more than 90 tons.

The responsibility of carrying this load falls on the shoulders of Master Sgt. Earnest Kincade, 386th ESVS food service superintendent, and his staff of 24 Airmen and 76 local food contractors.

"The absolute best part of the job here is the people," said Sergeant Kincade. "Trying to accomplish 100 percent customer satisfaction is our ultimate goal."

One of the many ways the Desert Winds Dining Facility staff accomplishes its goal is by providing special meals such as Friday steak night, monthly birthday gatherings and holiday feasts.

"The monthly birthday meals are a touch of stateside added to the menu

to help boost the morale of deployed troops," Sergeant Kincade said.

Accomplishing the birthday meal requires planning and plenty of dedication and professionalism, according to Sergeant Kincade.

"After 20 years of Air Force food service, it's a seemingly small task; however, this task takes the entire staff and the help of the Ali Al Salem leadership to pull off a successful meal," he added.

Additional services that the DFAC offers are midnight meals, flight/ground meal service and a 24-hour operation. Sergeant Kincade said that a major renovation project will provide DFAC customers a better dining experience in the near future.

One way to work out all of the meals served at the DFAC is to visit The Rock Fitness Center, operated by a staff of nine personnel.

"Our duties are to effectively provide



**Airman 1st Class Sandra McGee, 386th Expeditionary Services Squadron dining facility staff member, hands a bag of ice to Tech. Sgt. Bryan Quisquirin, 386th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, behind the DFAC's loading area recently. The DFAC keeps its bags of ice in a refrigerated truck across from the food warehouse. Along with a monthly ice bag distribution total of 120,000, the 386th ESVS distributes more than 200,000 gallons of water. Photo by Staff Sgt. Carlos Diaz**

fitness and sports programs to our base populace," Tech. Sgt. Timothy Brandy, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of The Rock Fitness Center, said. "We're the epicenter for all who seek stress relief as well as improve their overall fitness level."

Improving the quality of physical fitness is the staff's No. 1 priority.

"Providing outstanding physical fitness programming is at the top of our list to our customers," Sergeant

**Continued on next page**



## ***Expeditionary Services supports deployed Airmen***

*continued from page 4*

Brandy said. "It shows in how much people have changed physically and mentally during their stay with us during this four-month term."

"Our staff really enjoys seeing our customers' improve their fitness level as well as letting loose some steam in sporting events," he added.

Some of the many fitness and sporting events that have been organized are intramural volleyball and softball seasons, softball, soccer and basketball tournaments, a fitness challenge, bench press competitions, fitness fairs and a two-day Fourth of July Sports Day event, in which 23 sports events were played.

"Our team camaraderie has been fantastic," Sergeant Brandy said. "This has been the best team put together in all of my eight desert deployments."

Team work is an essential ingredient when the 386th ESVS coordinates, plans and executes recreational activities. As the manager of the Flex Recreation Center, Master Sgt. Tessie Foster is responsible for providing recreational activities that provide deployed members the opportunity to relax and enjoy some diversion.

"We do this by offering numerous single person and team type events such as bingo, darts, pool, ping pong, card games, USO/AFE shows and game shows," Sergeant Foster said. "We also maintain the base swimming pool, theater, The Rocker's Relaxation Lounge, The Oasis telephone center and the new amphitheater."

The nine members that make up The Flex Recreation Center staff spends hours brainstorming events that will

attract the largest number of people.

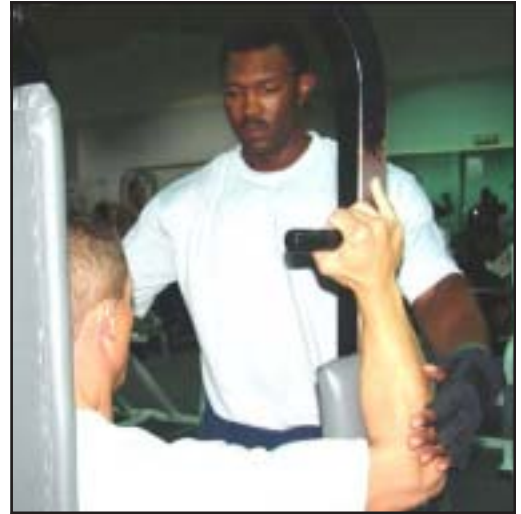
Sergeant Foster said that this endeavor takes a collaborated effort to accomplish.

"Once the event is created, we need to partner up with 386th ECES, ECS, ECONS and volunteers to construct sets and props, to advertise and to execute the program," she explained.

These events tend to bring Sergeant Foster an ear-to-ear smile.

"As much as I enjoy seeing my customers' happy, at the same time, I ensure my staff is happy doing what they do and make sure their morale is being met as well," she said. "You just can't ask for anything better than that."

Sergeant Foster said that when recreational items such as ping pong balls, pool sticks and darts were needed, the Flex staff used their creativity to tap



**Tech. Sgt. Victor Mack, 386th ESVS fitness center staff member, offers Capt. Eric Ecker, 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Flight Safety Office, tips on the proper way to perform a butterfly repitition at the fitness center recently. Photo by Staff Sgt. Carlos Diaz**

their support channels.

"Many of our families, friends and home base services squadrons stepped in and filled the void by sending large quantities of these items to support The Rock's deployed troops," Sergeant Foster said.

Sergeant Foster praised her staff's hard work and effort.

"I have such a wonderful staff; they're energetic, take charge and are customer-oriented people," she remarked. "They're the quality-of-life juggernaut, and I couldn't be prouder

of each and every one of them."

Major Andino-Aquino agreed with Sergeant Foster's advanced-force-to-be-reckoned- with statement.

"Their dedication to duty and unsurpassed 'Can Do' attitude are the linchpin behind this juggernaut's ability to provide top-notch, quality-of-life services to all coalition forces," he said. "No job has been too big for this outstanding group of professionals to tackle; I'm honored to be associated with each and every one of them," he concluded.

# Randolph Services hustles to support Hurricane task force, presidential visit

By Jennifer Valentin  
and Bob Hieronymus  
Randolph Air Force  
Base, Texas, Public  
Affairs

With an overnight presidential visit and arrival of several hundred hurricane-response troops occurring at the same time recently, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, was a hub of activity.

Wing leaders credited the entire team for pulling off the unprecedented welcome for the commander-in-chief and Joint Task Force-Rita forces.

"Team Randolph responded magnificently, with very little notice, to one of the most significant weekends of operations in base history," said Col. John Hesterman, 12th Flying Training Wing commander.

JTF-Rita, based at Fort Sam Houston, was stood up by U.S. Northern Command to command and control military forces committed to Hurricane Rita relief

operations in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and State of Texas.

That activation led to Randolph receiving more than 600 response forces. By that time it was clear Hurricane Rita would not affect the San Antonio area, and Randolph was a prime location from which to prepare post-hurricane operations.

At about the same time, word came that the president would make a trip to Randolph to get an update on JTF-Rita operations. That meant about 200 people would need lodging and other accommodations.

With more than 750 people coming to the base, lodging them all posed a challenge.

"Services provided lodging rooms for the president and his staff," said Terrye Heagerty, 12th Services Division director.



**President George W. Bush is greeted by San Antonio Mayor Phil Hardberger and other civilian and military representatives Sept. 24 upon his arrival at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, in Marine One. The president visited Randolph to receive an update about the military's role in Hurricane Rita relief operations. Photo by Steve White**

"The president and his staff stayed in Bldg. 110, while Bldg. 863, a vacant dormitory, and empty units in West Wherry housing were opened up to the troops."

Randolph lodging was also housing 10 families who had been evacuated from the path of Hurricane Rita, as well.

Services also provided breakfast, dinner, boxed meals, water and other food supplies to the troops and the Presidential staff, Ms. Heagerty said.

"The dining facility expanded its hours to include a midnight meal for the troops who were staying in West Wherry housing," she added. "We wanted to make everyone feel as comfortable as possible."

The entire visit went extremely well, Ms. Heagerty added.

"The feedback we received was awesome," she said. "The president's staff said they have never seen him so relaxed."

# ***AFE circuit, regional coordinators bring Trotters, WWE entertainment overseas***

**By Capt. Luke Hardaway**  
Europe and The Balkans Circuit Manager  
Armed Forces Entertainment

Summer is over, September and October are behind us; November, December and January are fast approaching. Armed Forces Entertainment is geared up for another busy holiday tour schedule, sending seasons greetings to our fellow service men and women and their families serving overseas.

"It seems like yesterday we were at the annual conference planning these tours," said Frank Tagatac, the Pacific Circuit Coordinator.

Each year, Mr. Tagatac, along with other AFE circuit and regional coordinators, attend the annual AFE conference in Washington, D.C. At the conference, circuit managers and coordinators meet to talk about lessons learned in the past year of touring. The coordinators came to the conference prepared to work a list of requirements from their respective installations. Their requirements list was then turned into a viable tour schedule for the next fiscal year. Once the entertainment schedule was finalized, the managers use that to begin contacting entertainment groups to go on tour.

Our entertainers are set to go "over the river and through the woods" to deliver quality entertainment around the world. More than 25 entertainment groups, ranging from cheerleaders and dance bands, to The Medal of Honor Society and Native American



Dancers, are scheduled to deliver more than 250 shows to more than 370 sites from November to January.

"Our holiday tour schedule is the busiest time of year for us," said George Degrella, Europe and The Balkans circuit coordinator, "but we know that these shows have a tremendous impact on the morale and holiday spirit of our troops serving over here."

Mr. Degrella, like the other AFE circuit coordinators, has the challenging task of teaming with the country coordinators and installations to schedule the minute-to-minute details of each tour. That's more than 550,000 minutes of time to plan this holiday season. They make sure the groups meet the right points of contact at each installation, have lodging reserved each night, meals planned, down times scheduled, and ensure show times are on time all the time. The groups are encouraged to be as flexible as possible "to go with the flow" as our coordinators work their logistical magic for one successful tour after another.

Like last year, AFE will send World Wrestling Entertainment

wrestlers and entertainers, and The Harlem Globetrotters to entertain thousands of troops around the world. WWE will tour South West Asia for six days. This will be their third trip to visit our troops serving in the combat zones of SWA. Vince McMahon and 30 of his wrestlers and entertainers will fly to several locations providing face-to-face thanks and handshakes to those serving in harm's way. Their trip will culminate in a taped WWE Raw show, which will be aired on USA network television, Dec. 19.

The Harlem Globetrotters will visit installations in SWA, Europe and the Mediterranean. This tour is the result of a Navy and Armed Forces Entertainment partnership. This high-flying, action-packed show will reach thousands of troops in just a few days. AFE and CNI/MWR will share costs as well as logistical support for more than 30 tour members and their equipment.

Are you going to be overseas during the holidays? Check out the Armed Forces Entertainment website for updates on current and future tours at your base and others at [www.armedforcesentertainment.com](http://www.armedforcesentertainment.com).

# Pam Tillis rocks Holloman during 'Spirit of America' tour

**By James Matise**  
Holloman Air Force  
Base, N.M., Public  
Affairs

Country music legend Pam Tillis rocked the Holloman Sports and Fitness Center and entertained more than 800 Team Holloman members and their families with a free two-hour concert.

"There's a lot of feelings and emotions that comes from getting to rub shoulders with you guys," said Ms. Tillis, who gave the concert as a part of the Spirit of America Tour, an initiative to bring headline artists to U.S. military installations.

"People in the military are giving everything they have to give, and in some small way we hope to repay that," she said. "I'm just kind of in awe. They say, 'oh, we're so glad you're here,' but no, the awe is all mine."

Robert Rosenthal, Spirit of America Tour creator and president, started the tour in 2002. Mr.

Rosenthal and his wife decided they wanted to do something for America, and came up with the idea of entertaining American military at U.S. installations.

"My wife is English and she lived through the Blitz in World War II, and she remembered inviting American soldiers over to their houses," Mr. Rosenthal said. "I saw no one was doing these shows domestically."

Mr. Rosenthal was a retired lawyer living in Burbank, Calif., during the 9-11 attacks and said "he could sit around playing backgammon, but this is much more fun."

At that time, he was on the board of the Western Music Association. He recruited public relations professional Cathy Gurley, then the executive director of the association, and they broke away from the association and approached the

Department of Defense with the idea to bring entertainment to stateside military installations.

Three years and 57 shows later, Mr. Rosenthal said the tour has been a great success and will continue, at least for the near future.

"We're pretty much funded for the next five years," he said. "This is the first year we're starting to look for contributions. We want the tour to be self-contained."

Ms. Tillis' tour schedule was slated for her to perform in Alto and San Juan Pueblo, N.M. She said her producer got a call from Mr. Rosenthal asking if they wanted to give a performance at Holloman, since they would be passing through the area.

"We've been trying to get together [with Mr. Rosenthal] for a long time," Ms. Tillis said. "What he's been doing since 9-11 is just very cool."



**Pam Tillis performs during her recent concert as part of the Spirit of America Tour sponsored by The Robert and Nina Rosenthal Foundation, Inc. Photo by Airman 1st Class Russell Scalf**

Ms. Tillis said she does not have any immediate family ties to the military, but her father, legendary singer, songwriter and actor Mel Tillis, served in the Air Force before she was born.

She also has cousins who served in the Persian Gulf.

"It touches everybody's life ... to have somebody away that you're thinking about, worried about," she said.

The performance featured a number

of Ms. Tillis' most popular songs, including "Mi Vida Loca," "Shake the Sugar Tree," "Spilled Perfume," "Pony Run," and her first chart-topping hit, "Don't Tell Me What to Do."

She stopped in the middle of "In Between Dances" and alleged she was nervous about performing in front of the Airmen. "I just want everything to be so great," Miss Tillis said.

**Continued on next page**



## Holloman rocks to Tillis tunes

*continued from page 8*

"It might help if I had somebody to sing to."

She then invited Airman 1st Class Brandon McDonald up to the front of the stage and sang the rest of the song while holding his hand.

She also performed her rendition of several other well-known songs, including the Monkees' "Last Train

to Clarksville," Chuck Berry's "Back in the U.S.A." and Fleetwood Mac's "Go Your Own Way."

Ms. Tillis and her band both received a standing ovation from the audience.

Brig. Gen. Kurt Cichowski, 49th Fighter Wing commander, said events like these have a positive effect on the installation and

personnel in a number of ways.

"First, the fact that named artists come here is a testament to what we're doing and it shows us how important we are to them," he said.

"Second, it gives great name recognition for the base and the artists, and it shows them how important they are to us.



**Pam Tillis croons "In Between Dances" to Airman 1st Class Brandon McDonald during her recent concert at the Fitness and Sports Center. Photo by Senior Airman Jason Colbert**

"It's a great genre, and there's no better place for it than in the West, here in New Mexico," he said.

## Night Fire Air Show Kickoff a Mountain Home success

**By Rochelle Tippet  
366th Services Squadron**

The Gunfighter Skies 2005 air show weekend at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, began Sept. 16 with the Night Fire Air Show Kickoff.

The Night Fire Kickoff was the official opening event for the air show and offered military members, retirees, National Guard members, Reservists, DoD civilians and their families an evening of free food, children's inflatables, music and static displays.

The event was co-sponsored by Silver Wings and the 366th Services Squadron, with the Mountain Home Air Force Base Chiefs' Group, commanders and first sergeants pitching in to do the cooking while the Gunfighter Youth Programs were running the children's play area.

In the past, Gunfighter air show kickoffs have attracted no more than about 700 people. In order to at-



**More than 3,500 Gunfighters, retirees, National Guard members and their families gathered for the Gunfighter Skies 2005 Night Fire Air Show Kickoff Sept. 16. Photo by Airman Robert Richardson**

tract a much larger audience this year, organizers provided everyone with free food, free music and an appearance by Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne.

Planning to accommodate between 1,000 and 2,500 people this year, they quickly learned they had underestimated, as this year's incentives attracted a record 3,500 people.

"It was tough to keep up," said Ron Dillon, 366th Services Squadron mar-

keting director. "We simply didn't expect this many people to show up, especially with the windy, nasty weather that drove the party off of the flightline and into Hangar 204. Everyone was moving as fast as they could, yet the serving line didn't diminish at all; if anything it got even longer."

Fortunately, quick assistance from Col. Charles Shugg, 366th Fighter Wing commander, Col. Ken Byrd, 366th Mission Support Group commander, Maj. Anthony Lanuzo, 366th SVS commander, Ann Taggart, 366th FW protocol chief, and Shane Zenner, Silver Wings, helped secure additional supplies from both the Gunfighters Club and the base commissary.

"Their combined efforts ensured that there was enough food available for the attendees as they reached the end of the line, helping eliminate a potentially disastrous issue," said Mr. Dillon.

# Dragon steals puppet show at library

**By April Crampton**  
436<sup>th</sup> Services  
Squadron

Fifty-four wide-eyed children at Dover Air Force Base, Del., looked over the castle prop and Rick Waterhouse, Miles of Smiles storyteller and puppet master, as they settled in their seats for the 'Dragon and the Chef' puppet show.

"The puppet show fits right in with the theme of the Library's summer reading program, 'Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds,'" said Capt. Sandra Nelson, 436<sup>th</sup> Services

Combat Support Flight commander.

"I thought the puppet show would be a great opportunity for the library to have something truly creative, interactive and loads of fun for the children," said Mr. Krueger. "Kids love having a good time with funny and interesting characters and this was a perfect chance to have fun at the library."

Mr. Waterhouse began the show by playing the guitar while he talked and sang with the children.

"In no time the children were singing and answer-



**Rick Waterhouse, Miles of Smiles storyteller and puppet master, tells and demonstrates 'The Dragon and the Chef' puppet show at the Dover Air Force Base, Del., Library as the children enjoy and interact during the recent show. Photo by April Crampton**

ing Mr. Waterhouse's questions," said Mr. Krueger. "There was excitement in the room when he came out from behind the castle prop dressed as the chef and talked about cooking for the king."

During the puppet show, Mr. Waterhouse changed into chef, king and magician costumes while using puppets of a mouse, bookworm and large dragon to tell the story of a dragon that mistakenly eats very spicy pizza that

caused trouble in a fairy-tale kingdom.

"The children were thrilled!" said Mr. Krueger. "Rick provided lots of opportunities for the children to participate from singing with songs, making a 'magic' potion to feed the dragon, telling kid-friendly jokes and more."

According to Mr. Krueger, Mr. Waterhouse, a former first and fourth grade teacher has been performing puppet shows for children for the last six years.

His puppet show has been in high demand this year. After the performance at the base library, Mr. Waterhouse still had thirty-three more shows to do.

"Response to the program was outstanding," said Mr. Krueger. "We hope for future funding to include this program in the summer activities. This year the show was made possible through sponsorship from the Officer's Spouses Club, Royal Farms and TCBY."

# Vandenberg Airmen win AFSPC Services awards

By 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Angela Webb  
Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., Public Affairs

Air Force Space Command recently announced the 2005 AFSPC individual services award winners, with four titles going to Team Vandenberg's 30th Services Division.

The individuals awarded exemplified the highest standards of professionalism and dedication in each of their categories. Capt. Chip Hollinger won Company Grade Officer of the Year.

"He led an administrative staff that supported over 1,700 military and civil service members from six squadrons," said Mr. Calvin Ishee, 30th SD director during the awards period.

Staff Sgt. Bethany Lopez won the NCO of the Year.

"She is an exemplary performer," Mr. Ishee said. "Highly motivated and highly respected by all in the services division."

Civilian manager of the year went to Ms. Pamela Coffey, Fitness Center Director.

"She is an outstanding manager," Mr. Ishee said. "She plans diverse and comprehensive fitness and sports programs and has a 97 percent customer satisfaction rate. That says it all."

Mr. Ishee took the Senior Civilian Manager of the Year title.

"He came here as our services deputy but took over as the director when the position unexpectedly converted from military to civilian,"



**Tech. Sgt. Bethany Lopez, 30th Services Division, checks the temperature on food being served at Breakers Dining Facility. Sergeant Lopez was recently awarded Services noncommissioned officer of the Year for Air Force Space Command. Photo by Staff Sgt. Orly Novame Tyrell**

said Col. Deidre Briggs, Mission Support Group commander. "He assumed the reigns without missing a beat."

"Although these are individual awards, it's really a tribute to the outstanding men and women of Team Services," Mr. Ishee said. "I certainly couldn't have accomplished anything without the hard work, dedication to excellence and creative talents of our services team."

The 30th SD operates programs and facilities for fitness, lodging, subsistence, recreation, child development, youth activities and library resources.

"It is a privilege to serve alongside the services professionals here at Vandenberg," Capt. Hollinger said. "They are truly dedicated to providing mission critical morale, welfare and recreational support to Team V, making Vandenberg the best place to live, work and play."

# Seymour Johnson library best in AF

**By Robin DeMark**  
Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.,  
Public Affairs

The Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., library, located in the Watkins-Das Learning Center, was recently awarded the 2004 Air Force Library Program of the Year.

The award evaluated Air Force libraries for innovation, management, customer satisfaction and operational results.

"The key to our success has been being open to suggestions and learning how to network and market ourselves which has been a non-traditional role for librarians," said Sukey Stephens Harper, library director. "It's also important to us because it recognizes the value of strong teambuilding; so much of what we do is the result of collaboration with other activities and programs on base."

Earlier this year, Ms. Stephens Harper was the guest speaker at a library conference for Air Force and Navy librarians where she discussed collaborative programming and the importance of being a non-traditional librarian in a military environment.

"Your internal audience at a base library begins with input from your group and squadron commanders extending to professional military education for our Airmen," Ms. Stephens Harper said. "Collaboration starts with librarians being receptive to the needs of the entire chain of command, it's just like a board of directors governing city and county libraries."

To explain collaborative programming, she refers to one of the many innovative library programs that helped win the award involving the base veterinarian clinic and a dog named George.

"George helped us launch a unique children's program providing a non-critical audience for youth who have difficulty reading aloud," Ms. Stephens Harper said. "This type of programming increases visibility for both the library and the base veterinarian clinic, which in turn increases business for us both."

Ms. Stephen Harper and her staff work as a team to make the library environment, programs and reading collection for customers a pleasant experience where everyone feels comfortable and welcome.

"We always encourage open communication and trust so patrons from other base offices feel comfortable suggesting new programming ideas they want to see," said Becky Dennison, library technician. "Our customers include everyone on base because we are one big family serving a bigger family, the Air Force."

## Art Camp offered at Dover Arts & Crafts

**By Theresa Krause**  
436th Services Squadron

Children ages 6 years old and older explored their creative side during the youth art camp at Dover Air Force Base, Del., Arts & Crafts. During the week-long program, the staff had a variety of projects planned to enhance the children's artistic side.

According to Xan Salas, 436th Arts and Crafts manager, the art camp allowed the children to get their hands dirty and express themselves through their artwork.

"We taught the children several different art styles, methods and techniques for each of the projects," said Ms. Salas. "This year we focused on making wind chimes, sculpting, watercolor paintings, and canvas paintings. Art history was also touched upon throughout the lessons."

Children attending the camp, also received refreshments at the end of every session, as well as a variety of trinkets, including stickers, pencils and other small items.

"All the projects are exhibited at the Arts & Crafts Center for the base to enjoy," said Ms. Salas.



Tanner Church, 9 years old, shows Sydney Giles, 6 years old, his wire art creation during this year's annual Dover Air Force Base, Del., Arts & Crafts Art Camp. Photo by Theresa Krause





From left, Tech Sgt. Alexander Shaw, 97th Services Squadron Plans and Readiness NCOIC, 1st Lt. Sergio Giusti, 97th SVS Plans and Readiness officer in charge, and Tech. Sgt. Charles Marshall, 97th SVS Mortuary Affairs NCOIC, inspect an immersion heater unit, M59 burner unit and M59 field range cabinet. Photo by Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Aldric Borders

## 97th Services earns AETC Readiness Program of the Year Award

**By Airman 1st Class  
Aldric Borders  
Altus Air Force Base,  
Okla., Public Affairs**

The 97th Services Squadron Readiness office at Altus Air Force Base, Okla., was recently awarded the 2005 Air Education and Training Command Readiness Program of the Year Award.

The squadron's Plans and Readiness section played a major part in winning the award due to their role in training, preparing, and deploying Altus' Airmen to support operations against the war on terror.

"When people think about Services, readiness is certainly not the most popular response," said 1st

Lt. Sergio Giusti, 97th SVS Plans and Readiness officer in charge. "The reason the Readiness section of the 97th SVS doesn't come to mind is because we are constantly working in the background, making sure some of the most mission-critical responsibilities are met," said Lieutenant Giusti.

The Plans and Readiness section ensures each services member is task and core competent in all contingency aspects of the services arena through the execution of home station training and field exercises.

Mortuary Affairs and Search and Recovery are also part of the 97th SVS Readiness office.

"Mortuary Affairs and Search and Recovery are extremely important operations which require lots of coordination and must be ready at all times," said Tech. Sgt. Charles Marshall, 97th SVS Mortuary Affairs NCOIC.

While ensuring their squadron's readiness, the 97th SVS Readiness office excelled in the areas of innovation, management, customer focus and satisfaction, and operational results.

One of the innovations was the creation of the Services key supervisors' plans and briefing guide, which serves as a reference to key elements of the readiness mission.

This guide was cited as a best practice during a Wing Plans inspection.

They also received an excellent rating during the 2004 Operational Readiness Inspection for their Operations Security program.

During these exercises the Services Unit Control Center, the group responsible for responding during an exercise or real-world disaster, performed outstandingly through oversight of 21 facilities.

"Readiness is the heart of Services," said Alexander Shaw, 97th SVS Plans and Readiness NCOIC.

The 97th SVS Readiness mem-

bers' efforts were evident in their performance as Lieutenant Giusti was selected as AETC company grade officer of the quarter and Tech. Sgt. Alexander Shaw was awarded AETC noncommissioned officer of the quarter.

As for operational results, the 97th SVS readiness program executed the combat support mission perfectly with no AEF shortfalls. They ensured all troops were 100 percent task qualified in 29 core areas.

"The Services Readiness section will continue to put forth its best efforts, and win another award next year," said Lieutenant Giusti.

# Air Force Clubs announces 'The Grand Giveaway'

**By Jimmy Johnson**  
Air Force Services  
Agency

Air Force Clubs' annual membership campaign, "The Grand Giveaway," runs until Nov. 30.

"The goal is to recruit at least 10,000 new members," said Frank Black, Clubs Division chief at Air Force Services Agency. "Our objective is to educate non-members about the various activities Air Force clubs offer and inform the Air Force community about the benefits of club membership."

All eligible non-members, including active duty, Reserve, Guard, retirees, and DOD civilians are eligible to become club members.

This is the fifth year a membership drive has been conducted. This year's campaign features the awarding of "credits" to club membership card accounts to both newly recruited members as well as current members from each major command.

Twelve prizes per MAJCOM will be awarded to club members (six prizes

to current members and six prizes to new members). Each prizewinner receives a \$1,000 credit to his or her club membership card account.

Premiums included during the membership campaign are:

Double points awarded Jan. 1 to March 30, 2006, with the Military Free Cash rewards program.

Members can earn four points per dollar spent on card purchases made on



**THE GRAND**

**GIVEAWAY**

base in Services activities, the base exchange (except for gas where a member can earn two points), and the commissary.

Members can earn two points per dollar on all other card purchases for all charges off base.

This offer is limited to new cardholders. Accounts between Sept. 1 and Nov. 30 are subject to the double points promotion.

New accounts receive a 0 percent introductory rate for 12 months on purchases and balance transfers with a "go to" rate of Prime plus 4.99 percent.

For more information on local membership activities and additional details on the membership campaign, contact your local club manager.



## LA youth know 'How'

Children from the Los Angeles Air Force Station, Calif., Youth Center were joined by a group of Native American performers at the Olvera Street courtyard in downtown Los Angeles, Calif., recently. Olvera Street is home to the first building erected in the city and is open to the public for tours. The area also offers various shops and restaurants for tourists and locals alike. Photo by Jason Webb

# Honoring fallen heroes full-time job

(From front) Capt. Paul Hubenthal and Staff Sgts. Leo Castellano, Ryan Ayers and Luis Pacheco take part in a military ceremony. The honor guard at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., performs military funeral honors for veterans throughout South Florida. Photo by Jake Shaw

By Jake Shaw  
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Click, click, click. People can hear the crisp, unmistakable sound of heels tapping together simultaneously. With precision movements, Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., Honor Guard Airmen march in unison to take their spot in the funeral procession.

They are dressed in pristine Air Force dress uniforms and spit-shined shoes people can see their reflection in.

For most Americans, Memorial Day is a day filled with parades and ceremonies and a day when many Americans pause to honor military veterans. But for honor guard Airmen, every day is Memorial Day.

An Air Force bugler stands 50 paces from a flagdraped casket. Two Airmen stand perfectly still at opposite ends of the fallen hero in a display of honor. As the funeral director finishes reading the eulogy, the bugler plays "Taps" to signal the end of the duty day for the resting veteran. The first note of "Taps" is the cue for the two Airmen flanking the casket to slowly raise their right hand until they touch the bill of their hats in a final salute to the veteran.

After the bugler plays the last note, the Airmen begin the ceremonial flag folding. An Airman kneels in front of the veteran's next of kin,

presents the American flag, and remarks, "On behalf of the president of the United States and a grateful nation, our country's flag is presented as a token of appreciation for many years of faithful and honorable service."

"The ceremony is enough to draw tears from even the most strong-willed spectator," said Staff Sgt. Ryan Ayers of the 482nd Fighter Wing's honor guard.

Like all Air Force honor guards, the honor guard at Homestead covers a large geographical area. Honor guard Airmen work most weekends, drive hours through road raging traffic and stand perfectly still without flinching for hours during ceremonies.

"The sacrifices of the honor guard are nothing compared to the sacrifices made by those we pay tribute to," said Staff Sgt. Luis Pacheco, a two-year veteran of the honor guard here.

"We get to meet heroes every day," said Tech. Sgt. Francisco Navarro, also of the honor guard.

Besides providing solemn military funeral honors, honor guard units represent the Air Force at community events. The eight-person unit marched in 13 parades, presented the colors during the national anthem 15 times at large public events, and honored 172 veterans at military funerals in 2004.



"We are sometimes called ambassadors in blue," Sergeant Navarro said.

Military funeral services are a time-honored custom that predates the Air Force. With the passing of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal 2000, the military was required to provide at least basic funeral honors for all eligible veterans. The law ensures all eligible veterans receive a proper farewell from their country.

With the number of ceremonies honor guards perform each year, common sense would lead one to believe the Airmen become immune to the emotions of a funeral. Staff Sgt. Natasha Jamass, of the honor guard, doesn't feel that way.

"No matter how many funerals we attend, it's impossible to escape the emotions involved," she said.

That is because the military is one big family, Sergeant Ayers said. "When we attend a funeral, we're saying farewell to one of our own family members with a professional ceremony," he said. "Providing a final tribute and giving military families a sense of closure is not just a job — it's an honor."

For the Air Force honor guards, Memorial Day is not a holiday — it is every day.

# Dover leisure travel office visits Lady Liberty

**By Theresa Krause**  
436th Services Squadron

The Dover Air Force Base, Del., Leisure Travel Office recently enhanced its New York City tours by offering special trips to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

These additional trips provide a fun-filled day for those looking to get to know the Big Apple one small bite at a time.

After a 3 1/2 hour early morning ride by way of deluxe motor coach, the New York City skyline slowly appears, turning into touchable, towering pillars at the first stop, Battery Park, located in Lower Manhattan. This starting point is where Dover families can easily catch the Circle Line Ferry to Liberty and Ellis Islands. The Statue of Liberty resides on Liberty Island.

The ferry departs Battery Park at frequent intervals and before you



From left, Staff Sgt. Eric Jefferson, along with wife, Melissa and daughters Kiara (5 years) and Samona (9 years) ride the Circle Line Ferry enroute to the Statue of Liberty. Photo by Theresa Krause

know it, cameras are frantically clicking with the Statue of Liberty as the backdrop. Upon arriving on Liberty Island, a brick pathway leads to a welcome booth, souvenir shop and the guarded entry to the colossal statue that stands more than 305 feet tall.

Security is strict at her entrance; however, most visitors welcome the extra measures to be able to experience the epitome of freedom.

Through ranger-led presentations, Air Force families such as Staff Sgt. Eric Jefferson and his wife and daughters really got to know Lady Liberty inside and out, from creation to current. Most visitors only regret is that they cannot climb up to the torch, which closed to the public in 1916.

After taking in the breathtaking views of New York Harbor, Manhattan, Brooklyn, Staten Island, and New Jersey from Lady Liberty's perch, the Jeffersons and their

fellow explorers were ferried a short distance to Ellis Island, a standing memorial to all immigrants who have made the United States their adopted home.

At Ellis Island there are find museum exhibits, documentaries, a research facility, and the American Immigrant Wall of Honor bearing more than 600,000 immigrant name inscriptions.

With the day slowly beginning to wind down, the ferry then returns to Battery Park where museums, eateries and shops are all within short walking distances, allowing visitors to capture a brief essence of the inner city itself.

Whether Doverites decide to explore New York City "on their own" or through select tours such as the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island with Leisure Travel, there is undoubtedly something for everyone around every corner in this great city.



# Fall Fest 'fairs' well with families

**By Senior Airman Jet Fabara**

**Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., Public Affairs**

With events lined up for Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., participants of all ages, the 95th

Services Division brought all the joy of fall, minus the leaves, to this year's Fall Fest.

Booths were set up along the outer portion of Wings Field to provide an assortment of food delicacies like funnel

cakes and steak sandwiches for Fall Fest attendees.

"I would estimate that throughout the course of the event, we hosted approximately 2,000 people, and I would say there was somewhere around 1,000 people here for the concert," said Terry Stegman, 95th Mission Support Group Community Center director. "The continued support provided by the base community made this event a success."

Throughout the course of the event, competitions like the chili cook-off, the chili pepper eating contest, the scarecrow-making contest, the pie-eating contest and pumpkin carving contest provided activities for those with a competitive edge.

During the entertainment portion of the fest, hay rides, carnival rides and a mechanical bull were brought in at no cost to the Edwards public. As an added benefit, alternative



**Ethan Plait rides the watercraft merry-go-round during Fall Fest Saturday at Wings Field. Photo by Senior Airman Jet Fabara**



**Lauren Harvey (left) and Mary Acklin participate in the Fall Fest pumpkin-carving contest. Photo by Ray Felix**



**Sam Hudson, from the alternative rock band Everclear, made sure to keep the entertainment going throughout the music portion of Fall Fest. Photo by Senior Airman Jet Fabara**

rock band Everclear was brought in to wrap up the day's festivities with Edwards' Battle of the Bands' winner Plantation 3810 opening for the concert.

Everclear lead singer Art Alexakis, who had been to Edwards when he was 10 to see an air show here, said he felt good to be able to come back to Edwards and perform for Edwards troops during Fall Fest.

The fest ended with Everclear band members signing autographs for Edwards' families and service members.

"Each year we try our best to make events bigger and better, not only by being cost effective, but by adding new attractions at each event," Ms. Stegman said. "I thought we had a great turnout for the event, but I would definitely like to see more people next year."

# Class teaches art of decorating bare walls

Measurements are a key factor to getting the mat cut right the first time.

**Story and photos by  
Senior Airman Mike  
Meares  
Eglin Air Force Base,  
Fla., Public Affairs**

Diana Moore has a back log of certificates from her husband's 25-year Air Force career, now a retired colonel, and Joel Hokkanen wants to add some finishing touches to his "man room" with things he's collected from his Air Force career.

They both joined three other people in the framing and matting class at the Eglin Skills Develop-

ment Center Sept. 14 and 15 for some instruction on how to frame and mat photographs, art or anything else they want to display.

"Framing and matting gives you a sense of self satisfaction that you created something," said Mary Ann DeLuca, frame shop director and instructor. "It's also a therapeutic way to improve mental and physical health."

This class teaches students to pick out a style and color mat by matching the right

colors to the artwork, frame selection, mat cutting techniques and frame construction.

"Framing is an 'explain it and do it' type of work," said Ms. DeLuca. "Some people really don't like doing this while others have told me 'it's just cutting paper with scissors.'"

To Ms. DeLuca, framing and matting photos and artwork is an art form by itself.

It's a skill that needs practice, she said.



Bob Morrison practices cutting out the center of a mat on the cutting table. The Eglin Skills Development Center offers classes on framing and matting techniques.



Diana Moore gets instruction from Mary Ann DeLuca, framing class instructor, on how to properly cut the mat for her husband's certificates.

# Power Hour offers homework help

By Mary Rall  
3rd Services Marketing

Base youth have an opportunity to take advantage of a helping hand and the resources available through the Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, Youth Center's Power Hour after school homework assistant program.

The program is offered for youth in junior high school from 3-5 p.m. and elementary school students from 4-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, said Jennifer Lamar, a Youth Center recreation assistant.

"It's a quiet place for them to come and do their homework. There's an adult on hand who helps the kids if they have a question," Ms. Lamar said. "We will not do their work for them or give them the answers, but we will point them in the right direction toward getting the answers they need."

The program is meant to complement parents' roles rather than take their place.

"We're not a substitution for parents, but we are here to make parents' jobs easier. If the children are here, parents know they're going to get the outlet they need and it's not something they're going to have to worry about at home," Ms. Lamar said. "They need a place to get their homework done and a lot of the time right after school is the only time they have to do it."

The program has a special room set aside at the facility with resources such as three bookshelves of reference materials, computers for performing research and writing assignments and school supplies, according to Ms. Lamar.

A measure of comfort is added to the room as well, through the availability of both tables and couches, and animals such as rabbits, gerbils, hamsters and hermit crabs.

"The animals are soothing for the kids because they can walk over and pet them or pick them up if they need a break or to relax a little," Ms. Lamar said. "Pretty much everything in the room is conducive to creating a sound learning environment."

Youth taking advantage of the program's resource testify to its usefulness.

"I'm in the eighth grade, and I get a lot of homework. It's a quiet place to do your homework and there are people here to help you," said Erin Dutton, a Central Middle School student. "I've used the computers for school projects like a language arts project that I had to write a bio-poem about myself for."

The Power Hour program is funded in part by a grant awarded by the J.C. Penny After School Fund, Ms. Lamar said. The \$5,000 grant was awarded to the center for the second consecutive year Sept. 8.

"It's important because we were able to use the money to do things last year like buy new tables and chairs because the others were falling apart and we were able to paint the room," Ms. Lamar said. "This year's money will be used to upgrade the encyclopedias the youth use as reference materials and purchase school supplies such as paper, scientific calculators and more program incentives."

After school programs such as Power Hour are of particular interest for J.C. Penny.

"One of the real challenges youth have going for them is finding productive things to do after school," said Dan Durkin, the Anchorage J.C. Penny store manager. "There are really so many kids today that come home to an empty house both in and outside of the military ... programs like Power Hour are just one way to get them involved with something constructive."

Ms. Lamar said the program is currently being used by about 14 youth, with the numbers growing all the time. Participation in the Power Hour program is open to all Youth Center members. There is no additional participation fee for Power Hour.

# Marketing team's fount of ideas realized through teamwork



Marketing team members (left to right) Amy Bellman, Wendy Foster and Shane Bolda look over a poster advertising the new Mac "Deal" Bucks program aimed at increasing club membership rolls on base. Photos by Nick Stubbs

**By Nick Stubbs**  
**MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., Public Affairs**

If a forensics team were to begin lifting fingerprints around MacDill they might discover that most of them, from the base gates to the north to the water's edge at the south end of base, belong to just four people, all of whom make up the MacDill Marketing department.

Indeed, Marketing head Wendy Foster, commercial sponsorship chief Dave Engle, artist Amy Bellman and Web master Shane Bolda seem to have their hands on almost everything at MacDill. In charge of promoting special events and every business on base, Marketing produces everything from the Base, Bay & Beyond magazine, to ads, special promotions, running games like the popular Match Up, events like Family Fun Day picnics and not to mention scoring free and discounted tickets for shows and events around Tampa Bay. But there also are all the little things Marketing has its hands on.

Pick up a menu at Boomer's Bar and Grill and you are holding the printing handy work of Marketing,

which produced some 1,100 print jobs last year and is on track for more in 2005. The signs or posters hanging just about anywhere on base may be a Marketing creation. The monthly Prime Time center spread of the MacDill Thunderbolt is produced by Marketing.

The reach of Marketing is extensive but Mrs. Foster likes to break the core responsibilities down to three areas: commercial sponsorship of the base and base businesses, publicity and promotion for MacDill, and support for 29 facilities on base, from the Commissary to the bowling alley to dry cleaning and other non-appropriated agencies or businesses on base.

All efforts have the common goal of promoting MacDill and its businesses and to that end, Marketing is on point, or at least thinks those at the command level, who chose MacDill's Marketing Department as best in AMC last year. Bringing in nearly twice the contributions in cash, services or products as its nearest competitor, MacDill Marketing is a well-oiled promotion machine, all made possible, said Mrs. Foster, by the "tremendous

support" of the 6th Air Mobility Wing Services Squadron, which always seems to come through with "excellent teamwork."

Mr. Engle, who is the liaison between the base and area commercial sponsors, said Marketing's success also is made possible by the high level of support area businesses provide.

Under Department of Defense rules, Mr. Engle may not solicit businesses to help sponsor the base and its events, but then he doesn't have to.

MacDill received about \$250,000 in cash and in-kind services last year, said Mr. Engle, and "the community response in helping and working with MacDill has been nothing but positive."

The Tampa Bay region is both supportive of the military and thankful, but it also makes good business sense to tap into the MacDill market, said Mr. Engle.

"We are the prime demographic," said Mr. Engle. "MacDill is the 18- to 25-year-olds every business wants and that's what we have to offer."

**Continued on next page**



## Marketing equals teamwork

*continued from page 20*

And military customers are good customers, with a high degree of brand loyalty and patronage. If a business is seen to be MacDill friendly or supportive, military consumers will reward that, said Mr. Engle.

The hallmark of any good marketing department or company is that it never stands still. MacDill's team is in perpetual motion and there can be no thought of slowing down. While summer offers some relief as the base population drops with the Fam Camp crowd exodus, there is no rest for the weary and projects and programs move full ahead. The product of that work is evident in the information kiosks that have been popping up around base. Marketing also launched its own Web site this month. While still

being developed, Mr. Bolda is working away to populate the site with interesting and useful content. It can be viewed at <http://www.macdillservices.com>.

A new promotion this summer, Marketing recently launched Mac "Deal" Bucks. The program is getting a warm reception and is encouraging those who work on base to become members of the Officers and Enlisted clubs. The promotion ensures enlisted dues of \$7 per month and officer dues of \$17 are more than returned when members receive \$20 per month in Mac "Deal" Bucks that can be redeemed a dollar at a time at the clubs and numerous participating businesses on base, such as the Bowling Center or Golf Course.

"It's a great deal and there isn't any reason any longer to not become a club member," said Mr. Foster. "You essentially are getting membership and the discount for free and actually coming out ahead because you're getting paid to become a member."

It is hoped the bonus program will help make the base a more



**Just a sampling of the MacDill Marketing Department handiwork. Some 1,100 print jobs were handled through Marketing last year, and the number will be higher in 2005.**

attractive place to spend money, said Mrs. Foster, who notes that her department has a tough job when Tampa Bay has so much to offer.

"We compete with everything out there (around MacDill)," said Mrs. Foster. "That's difficult because this area has so much to offer."



### **USAF Family Child Care Provider of Year**

Shannon Pearson of Royal Air Force Mildenhall is the 2005 USAF Family Child Care Provider of the Year. Ms. Pearson was selected from more than 100 providers for her service to the RAF Mildenhall community and the children in her care; her example as a committed professional working with children of all cultures and abilities; and her concern for children's health and safety, education, and well-being.

Courtesy photo

## ***From serious student to casual patron***

# **Randolph Library meets needs**

**By Jennifer Valentin**  
**Randolph Air Force**  
**Base, Texas, Public**  
**Affairs**

With more than 16,000 customers walking through the doors every month, the Randolph Library has something for people of all ages.

The library offers more than just books. It has a wide variety of music and book CDs, DVD and VHS movies and educational resources.

Book topics at the base library range from children's books, to mystery novels to biographies, said David Ince, library manager. Anywhere from 15,000-20,000 books are checked out of the library monthly.

Customers with a library card can access the library's Web site from the base library or from home, said Mr. Ince. Customers can browse the local library catalog or access a variety of online research databases. While browsing the library



**Gail Trevino helps library customer John Orona search for information using a computer in the base library. Photo by Jennifer Valentin**

catalogs, the user can see all media that is in the library.

People can check out movies and magazine periodicals for one week, test preparation materials for two weeks and everything else for three weeks. An item can be placed on alert and reserved if it is currently checked out or not available, said Mr. Ince.

The program will send an e-mail or alert staff to call the customer when the item becomes available. The item is placed on hold for

three business days for the customer to pick up. Items that show 'available status' can be found at the library.

Educational resources include online services of the Peterson's Library Education Resource Center, where customers get free access to an online database search of schools and programs offered, as well as online practice tests.

Students working on a term paper or other research project can access full text articles from

hundreds of commercial and professional journals from the online databases.

"Students can get help with their work from the comfort of their own home computer, 24 hours a day, seven days a week," said Mr. Ince.

Available journals cover all topics from Consumer Reports to the Air Force Journal of Logistics. The catalog also provides access to over 40,000 libraries from a home computer.

The library also offers customers who want to take a break from reading, the Bookworm Coffeehouse.

The coffeehouse sells a variety of drinks and snacks. They also have, as does the library area, connections for people who want to bring their laptops.

The base library fulfills three missions, said Mr. Ince. They include supporting the base mission, supporting the educational programs and

keeping the quality of support as a public library. This means the library acts as a special library, an academic library and a public library for active duty members, civilian employees, contractors and retired military members and their families.

"A large part of our patrons live on base," said Mr. Ince. "If they wanted to use the local libraries they would have to pay a fee, or the local area libraries may be too far for them to travel to. Our library is not only convenient, but free for those who are allowed to use it."

The Randolph Library was also recognized in February as the only Air Education and Training Command recipient of a Five-Star Rating under the Air Force Golden Eagle Standards. The standards include how libraries should be managed and what they should offer their customers.

# Now hear this -- 10th SVS gets the word out

**By Wayne Amann**  
Air Force Academy Public Affairs

James Lovely admits "it's a labor of love."

It's that passion for professionalism that's elevated the writer-editor and his co-workers in the 10th Services Squadron Marketing Office to the elite stature they enjoy among their peers.

Named the Best Marketing Office in the Air Force in 2003, the six-member staff followed that with the Air Force Achievement in Marketing Excellence Award for their Academy Spirit monthly supplement insert for 2004. And visual information specialist Todd Ryan earned one of only nine Gold Medal awards for a table-top display on the local Interactive Customer Evaluation Program publicity.

The kudos are a by-product of Marketing's mission: get the word out on services programs and activities to active duty and retired military, Reservists, National Guard, nonappropriated fund and DoD civilian employees, Academy cadets and Prep School students, Academy contractors and the immediate family members of these groups.

"No matter how good a program is, if no one knows about it, it doesn't do anyone any good," Mr. Lovely said. "That's why what we do is important."

Their most visible tool is Good Things, a free, 16-page, full-color monthly magazine that was instrumental in Marketing's Office of the Year recognition. Approximately 10,200 copies are printed each month, with 8,700 mailed directly to retirees in Colorado Springs,

Academy housing residents, and elsewhere in the state. The remaining 1,500 are distributed at key Academy high traffic areas: the commissary, base exchange, hospital, community center plus all the rooms in the Rampart Lodge.

"One of the reasons I came to the Air Force five and a half years ago was to work on a high-quality magazine publication," explained Mr. Lovely, a veteran community newspaper editor. "It gives me a chance to do something different with the information we have. There's never a shortage of information for either publication."

The magazine and newspaper insert come out at different times of the month, which helps facilitate "breaking news," and they reach different audiences.

Services information is electronically sent via the 10th Services web site. It recently became a dot com, enabling Marketing to oversee all input.

Another computer tool is the weekly email sent to the cadet wing. Targeting cadets is a challenge because of the demands on their time. Prize giveaways are used as incentives so cadets peruse the services information. Marketing meets customers at the point of sale through a myriad of brochures, flyers and posters designed to cross-promote a particular activity or program inside other services facilities.

Marketing and its commercial sponsorship team enhance community relations through live events. It's marquee activity is SnoFest, the annual military snow sports weekend. The Academy joins forces with the other Front Range installations



**Skiers at Keystone Resort are welcomed to SnoFest '05, the 15th annual military snow sports weekend, by a sign designed in the Academy Marketing Office. Photo by James Lovely**

to provide an affordable winter vacation for the military community. Last year more than 3,500 attended the three-day weekend of competitive snowboarding and skiing, ice skating, tubing, a cardboard derby, parties and more at Keystone resort.

"Military people want the same thing as everyone else; a good value that'll stretch their dollar," Mr. Lovely pointed out. "They may not always be able to afford something they deserve or are entitled to. Helping them get it is a good feeling."

Commercial sponsorship from the local installations combine to get approximately \$75,000 in cash and products, such as snowboards, skis and other weekend trips as giveaways. The cash offsets the cost for the troops.

The Academy Marketing staff is about to start its prevent publicity campaign for the 16th edition of SnoFest, Jan. 27-29, 2006 at Keystone.



# Ramstein Enlisted Club; food, fun for all

**Editor's note:** This article appeared in the August issue of *Military Club and Hospitality News*. It is reprinted with permission.

Enlisted officers and their families at Ramstein AB, Germany, do not have to go far to find a place where they can enjoy a fine meal and have a good time.

In fact, they do not even have to go outside the gate for their food, beverage and entertainment needs.

The Ramstein Enlisted Club has attracted more than 100,000 enlisted officers and family members monthly since opening on Oct. 1, 2004. The 48,000-sq.-ft. facility took two years to build at a cost of \$15 million.

Serving the Kaiserslautern military community, the enlisted club provides a taste of home for its patrons with a multi-faceted entertainment complex designed to enhance quality of life for those who

use it. "It is a state-of-the-art entertainment facility with many attractions offered under one roof, all providing great quality of food, service and entertainment programs," Ramstein Enlisted Club General Manager Leonard Bouchy said.

## Club offerings

Mr. Bouchy explained that there are various food, beverage and entertainment offerings featured in the club, which is open seven days a week. One of the more popular restaurants in the club is Chili's Grill and Bar, which was the restaurant chain's first franchise agreement with a military installation.

Mr. Bouchy explained that Chili's offers its full menu daily from 11 a.m.-



**The Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Enlisted Club was recently featured in the August issue of *Military Club and Hospitality News*. Courtesy photo**

10 p.m., and features an outdoor patio.

JR Rockers Sports Bar provides a full American-style breakfast menu with waitress service from 6:30 -10:30 a.m., and a full à la carte sports-bar-type lunch and dinner menu from 11:00 a.m.-midnight, with the added attraction of an outdoor beer garden.

Other food, beverage and entertainment options include a JR Martini's Lounge, Club E Night Club, gift shops and a slot room.

Mr. Bouchy explained that outside food and beverages are not allowed to be

brought into the club, except for ceremonial-type cakes. Two conference rooms complete the number of public areas within the club.

There are more than 400 employees in the entire complex, with Mr. Bouchy, an assistant club manager, the general manager of Chili's and the manager of JR Rockers overseeing the entire complex.

He explained that all items, such as the furnishings, chairs and tables in Chili's and JR Rockers, were selected by Chili's and the Air Force Services Agency, respectively.

Items at the other club venues

were selected by the interior designer at Air Force Headquarters.

Enlisted members with proper identification cards can use the entire club anytime, Mr. Bouchy said. Officers and equivalents can use Chili's anytime and JR Rockers until 10 p.m., but the bars are reserved for enlisted ranks only, except for special events.

Catered events can be booked months in advance.

## Special events

Entertainment is aplenty at the club, with special events

**Continued on next page**



## Ramstein E-Club lauded by national magazine

*continued from page 24*

featured every night for all ages, with more than 100 bands, DJs and entertainers performing on a monthly basis.

For example, Sundays feature NASCAR trivia and other contests in JR Rockers Sports Bar, and Football Frenzy will start up this month.

Wednesdays at JR Rockers feature sumo wrestling, a pool tournament, dart tournament, the Nite Patrol Girls, assorted contests and a DJ. Martini's offers Wingman Karaoke on Wednesdays.

Unplugged Open Microphone Night takes place on Thursdays, featuring a live band.

"It's like a live karaoke where people bring instruments and join in," Mr. Bouchy said.

Fridays and Saturdays showcase live bands at Martini's, and party dance music is played at Club E from Thursday through Saturday. Major bingo games are played on



**Patrons enjoy eating at JR Rockers in the Ramstein Air Base, Germany**  
Enlisted Club Courtesy photo

Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays, and American celebrity comedians are flown in from the United States for comedy night every third Friday of the month.

Family Night is held every Tuesday at Club E, offering kiddie karaoke, dance contests, cartoons, coloring corner and kiddie disco.

The night starts off with a free meal for Kid's Club members in JR

Rockers or Chili's, Mr. Bouchy noted.

The Rock Am Ram takes place on the last Friday of each month, with three live bands, a DJ and plenty of giveaways.

Mr. Bouchy said there are several ways that the club promotes its special events, including the local Stars and Stripes newspaper, Armed Forces Network radio and television, flyers, posters, electronic publicity boards,

display cases and display marquees.

### Club success

The enlisted club is open daily, and guests have flocked to the complex in the short time it has been open.

With many food and entertainment options to choose from, the club has made an immediate impact in its short existence.

In fact, it outperformed the officers' club on the base by almost two times as

much in revenues in fiscal 2004, with sales totaling more than \$6.8 million, and more than three times the revenues of the collocated club.

"We have more than 125,000 members and guests utilizing the club monthly, with over \$1 million in total revenue, and we believe this will increase even more once we have developed additional core programs," Mr. Bouchy said. "Our profits go into our Services' one fund which supports many worthwhile programs throughout the Kaiser-slautern military community."

Mr. Bouchy realizes the impact that the club has made as it completes its first year of existence.

"This new facility is a trendsetter for the Air Force and adds yet another super Services' facility, enhancing quality of life for our military and providing a touch of America in our own backyard," he said.

# Randolph FCC program offers daycare alternative



Criscinda Rivera, Randolph Family Child Care provider, takes care of children as part of the provider program. Ms. Rivera has been a provider since 1989. Photo by Jennifer Valentin

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**By Jennifer Valentin**  
Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, Public Affairs

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Quality child care is a high priority for working parents, and the Randolph Family Child Care program keeps that in mind by providing great care and flexibility for parents working and living on base.

Military family members living in base housing or those who have become affiliated off base operate the family child care homes.

Some family child care homes open as early as 6:30 a.m. and some don't close until after 6 p.m. Other homes offer overnight and weekend care, providing more options to parents with unusual work schedules.

"The high quality of child care starts with the licensing standards that exceed those of the state of

Texas," said Essie Howard, FCC coordinator. "Monthly inspections from the family child care staff ensure the provider is focused on the welfare and needs of the children."

Providers are trained in health, safety, CPR, first aid and child development. Providers may accept up to six children with no more than two children under two years of age.

The FCC program provides a small comfortable setting for children up to age 12.

"Serving a small number of children and their families provides a benefit," said Ms. Howard. "It offers the children a head start in achieving good personal relationships. The homes are comfortable environments where children play, eat, sleep and interact with each other."

Learning is a natural part of a child's day, added Ms. Howard. Writing grocery lists, setting the table, and helping prepare meals are all opportunities to read, write and count. These skills will help them in future education.

Air Force Instruction 34-276 prohibits the use of family quarters for child care unless licensed by the 12th Mission Support Group commander.

The Randolph FCC program currently has two providers on base and eight providers off base, due to base housing construction projects.

Active duty military members, Air National Guard members and Air Force Reserve members who routinely deploy on a short term basis in support of contingency operations, for a minimum of 30 cumulative calendar days within a six month period, are eligible for free care in an FCC home.

The care is limited to no more than 16 hours per child, and children must be 12 years old or younger. The care must be used within 30 days of returning from deployment, said Ms. Howard.

The FCC program also provides assistance to members who are within 60 days of a PCS, whether to or from Randolph.

Twenty hours of free childcare, per child, is available to Air Force members of all ranks.

"This allows the members to pack, unpack or take care of any unfinished business before they leave," said Ms. Howard.

# AMC's **MATCHUP** program exceeds expectations first year

By Sam Parker  
AMC

MatchUP — Air Mobility Command's summer promotion, ended Aug. 31. An interactive, web-based program, MatchUP picked up right where the Around The World In Ninety Days program left off after six extremely successful years.

AMC Services officials, based on feedback from throughout the command, felt it was time to "freshen up" ATWIND and create a more interactive program for participants. Like ATWIND, MatchUP is designed to help increase awareness and participation in Air Force programs, services and activities. According to command MatchUP officials, the program achieved its goal and more.

"MatchUP is essentially a continuation of ATWIND and retained many

of the elements that made ATWIND so popular with AMC personnel during its six years," said Scott Black, director of marketing for AMC Services. "In the seven years we have conducted ATWIND and MatchUP in AMC, we have had more than 310,000 registered participants and have awarded more than 43,600 prizes."

Mr. Black said this year more than 42,200 MatchUP participants got into the spirit of things.

For two MatchUP participants, playing MatchUP meant winning a vacation and plenty of spending cash. The top prize winner won four U.S. Airways tickets good for any North American destination and \$5,000 cash.

The second place winner received four U.S. Airways tickets and \$3,000.

Staff Sgt. Sabadilla Lloyd from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. and

Master Sgt. Joseph Morgan from McGuire AFB, N.J., were the grand prize winners. In addition, Willie Crocker (retired from McConnell AFB, Kans.) and Senior Master Sgt. Tyrone Matthews from Travis AFB, Calif., each won Universal Studios Vacation Packages.

Commercial sponsorship support from Sprint, US Airways, USAA, Coca-Cola, Tyson, First Command and ASPEN Marketing Services provided more than \$170,000 in cash and prizes

for the MatchUP program.

TiVo also donated a recording system with lifetime service to one lucky winner at each AMC base.

Brig. Gen. Del Eulberg, AMC Director of Installations and Mission Support, said plans are already under way for next year's program.

"We look forward to building off this year's success with MatchUP. You can look for the same quality, great prizes, and something the whole family can enjoy again during the summer of

2006," General Eulberg said.

AMC bases who reached their MatchUP participation goal shared \$100,000 in fiscal 2006 Quality of Life enhancement funds provided by AMC. Installations receiving QOL funds are Pope AFB, N.C., (\$32,000), Andrews AFB, Md., (\$24,500), McConnell AFB, (\$17,000), Charleston AFB, (\$14,500) and Scott AFB, Ill., (\$12,000).

For a list of MatchUP winners, log on to [www.amc.matchup.com](http://www.amc.matchup.com).



Staff Sgt. Sabadilla Lloyd from the 437th Security Forces Squadron at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., was the Grand Prize winner in Air Mobility Command's MatchUP program. Sergeant Lloyd won four U.S. Airways tickets good for any North American destination and \$5,000 cash. Pictures with Sergeant Lloyd are his wife, Staff Sgt. Maria Lloyd and Col. Susan Desjardins, 437th Wing commander. Courtesy photo

# Eglin cardboard boat regatta sets sail for wet fun, prizes

**By Amy C.C. Zimmer**  
96th Services Squadron

As crews unloaded cardboard boats onto the southeastern tip of Postl Point on a recent Saturday morning, dark clouds continued to gather into thick clumps. This was to be the day of the 14th Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta, put on by Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., outdoor recreation.

It was already the fourth attempt to host this event, each previous attempt postponed by the ominous summer storms, named Ivan, Arlene and Dennis. Saturday's weather did not bode well.

"There are two races happening — against the other boats and against the weather," said Jeff Heagerty, outdoor recreation programmer and event organizer and referee.

In spite of the potentially disastrous weather, Mr. Heagerty briefed the

judges about their job to determine the best dressed crew, the most unique boat and the best overall watercraft design.

The judges meandered through the crews and cardboard boats, finding out information about the boats' designs.

As soon as the race began, teams plunged into the bayou, carrying their boats until they were afloat.

The crews then jumped in and began to paddle with oars also constructed solely of cardboard and tape. Child development center staff members dressed as caterpillars, shot straight out towards the finishline, only to turn suddenly back toward the other boats. Following their lead, Agile Combat Support Systems Squadron's Combat Krapper, a floating homage to the public restroom, graffiti and all, turned away from the finish line and

battled the "Butterfly" for last place.

Amidst all the hilarity and chaos, one team sailed in ease and efficiency. Dubbed the JKF for "Just Keep Floating," the gun-metal grey craft not only kept floating, but skimmed across the water to a clear victory.

When congratulated by an on-looker, one of the crewmembers said, "Well we asked ourselves whether we were in this to have fun or in it to win."

They decided to go for both, while the other teams happily settled for having fun. The Fat Lady Viking-inspired canoe came in second after tossing in the paddles, opting to use their hands instead.

Using the Fat Lady's drag to pull them into shore, the giant orange Power Ranger One barreled into third place, with the Mad Sea Cow hot on their tail, whose captain said he had



**Participants in the 14th Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta race their cardboard vessels while attempting not to sink into the water at Postl Point recently. The JKF or "Just Keep Floating" won the race, while the Butterfly won the Davey Jones Prize for last place. Photo by Shari Bozoki**

only set one goal for the race — "to start and finish with a crew of nine people."

After paddling around a pontoon boat of on-lookers, weaving in and out of the swimming area and losing almost all of their paddles, the race came down to a tight competition for the Davey Jones Prize for last place.

The Butterfly had long-since lost its wings and the "Combat Krapper" had to use its toilet paper holder as its last stab at a paddle, but the Butterfly won and came in last place.

"And nobody's boat sank," Mr. Heagerty said.

Despite the water crafts being constructed of non-waterproof materials, none of the teams had to swim back to shore.

The Power Ranger One stood out and was voted as most unique design. Best overall design went to 1st Lt. Christine Watkins, Air Force Research Lab and designer of the Fat Lady, who showed the judges her blueprints, research and a scaled model of her Nordic boat.

Col. Dean Clemons, 96th Air Base Wing vice commander, helped Eglin Services hand out the prizes to all the participants and winners.





Daniele Partridge concentrates on her craft creation of a name bracelet. The booth was available all day for children to create jewelry, gifts and toys during the Pope Air Force Base, N.C., Youth Center National Kids Day celebration. Photo by Master Sgt. Stephen Pederson.

# Pope youth celebrate National Kids Day

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**By Marjorie Egger**  
43rd Services  
Squadron

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National Kids Day kicked off at the Pope Air Force Base, N.C., Youth Center recently.

More than 250 Team Pope members attended the event. There were balloons, face painting, bouncy castles, a dunking booth, free hotdogs, sodas, watermelon, music and carnival-type games available for children of all ages to enjoy.

Many information booths were set up

including the 4-H extension table where the agent distributed information and buttons to interested individuals.

The Family Support Center handed out information. Information included family child care and Extended Duty and Returning Home care programs.

Teen Keystone members, Pre-teen Torch Club members and Youth Center Advisory Council members were on hand to make sure everyone had fun.

# Paintball field has paint flying

**By Airman 1st Class  
Patrice Clarke  
Grand Forks Air Force  
Base, N.D., Public  
Affairs**

After a year and a half of planning, the Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., paintball field opened recently.

"We've had interest from many Airmen about getting a paintball field open for use," said Lawrence Cannedy, 319th Services Squadron.

The paintball field, which is located just south of Sunflake housing, offers a full field of play with a variety of obstacles.

The field is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"The field is a little different than I am used to, said Airman 1st Class Jeremiah Johnson, 319th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, but it is a lot closer than where I usually go to play."



Airman 1st Class Jeremiah Johnson, 319th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, takes aims on an opponent during a game of two-on-two paintball. The base paintball field opened recently. Photo by Airman 1st Class Patrice Clarke

## Big move ...

Gage and Seth Wakefield, 10 and 12 years old, compete in a game of giant chess at the Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., 56th Services Squadron Youth Center celebration of National Kid's Day. More than 175 people attended the event. Photo by Senior Airman Christopher Hummel



## Dining room open at The Landing

**By Yolanda Romero  
27th Services**

The new permanent dining room at The Landing at Cannon Air Force Base, N.M., opened recently.

The former Merge Room was remodeled by the 27th Civil Engineer Squadron's Top 27 Work Order Team.

The team also recently completed a renovation to the Tumbleweed Lounge including a complete new front and back bar.

"This is just another way that the club member's dollars come back to

[the members]." said Al Sparling, manager of The Landing.

A contest was held to name the dining room, with "Casa de Falcon" chosen as the winner from a club member who received a \$100 prize.

There is new lighting, tables, chairs, booths, a welcome area for guests and a hostess station. Casa de Falcon will also feature a new dinner menu offering full courses such as chicken Miami, prime rib roast for two and

scampi linguine el Galveston

There is also a healthy heart section with traditional and Greek salads plus freshly made sandwiches .

There are also filling appetizers and a children's menu for our youngest members plus, the best part of all, a fantastic dessert menu with tantalizing treats such as strawberry delight and brownie ala mode — a little something that will surely please everyone.

The dining room will hold up to 70 people.

**'Cue' the fun**

# Local NCO teaches children billiard basics

**By Airman Alyssa Wallace**  
**Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., Public Affairs**

Children of all ages were invited to an hour-long "Pool Tips" session with Tech. Sgt. Ron Walling recently at the Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., Youth Center.

Sergeant Walling, a lab technician with the 14th Medical Support Squadron, has played pool for 16 years and has

been a member of the Billiard Congress of America since 1999.

He has more than 15 championship trophies, including a first place trophy for the Base Level Billiards championship.

Sergeant Walling taught children the proper way to hold a pool stick as well as offensive and defensive techniques during the session.

He also shared techniques for



**Tech. Sgt. Ron Walling, 14th Medical Support Squadron, shows youth center children how to properly aim for a corner-pocket shot. Children of all ages were invited to attend Sergeant Walling's free class on the fundamentals of pool recently at the youth center. No registration was required. Photo by Airman Alyssa Wallace**

hitting the cue ball using a method called the Diamond System.

"Learning the Diamond System can benefit players in more than one way," Sergeant Walling said. "The system will help children with their

math skills because they have to figure out which angle they need to hit the ball at for it to go in the direction they want it to and it also takes mental calculation."

Children had the opportunity to learn and play different

pool games as well. Sergeant Walling said by the end of the session, participants understood the basic fundamentals of pool.

"I want the kids to have fun," he said. "That's my main objective."

## ***KidsDay***

**Col. Mark Baker, 14th Flying Training Wing vice commander, signs a National KidsDay proclamation in the company of Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., youth center staff and children. All Columbus AFB children were invited to the National KidsDay celebration recently at Freedom Park. The event featured games, art activities, a scavenger hunt, wacky olympics, a dunk tank, pony rides and more. Photo by Airman 1st Class Alexis Lloyd**





## Serving up success

# Yokota dining facility offers fresh ideas, mission focus

Lunch takes second as the largest meal served each day at the Samurai Cafe, the Yokota Air Base, Japan, dining facility. With more than 200 patrons, dinner takes the top spot on the facility's list. The facility is staffed by 24 Japanese Nationals and 19 military members who serve approximately 600 meals a day during four meal times.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Katie Thomas



**By Airman 1st Class  
Katie Thomas**  
Yokota Air Base,  
Japan, Public Affairs

The Samurai Café at Yokota Air Base, Japan, wants more business.

With a mission that calls for around-the-clock staffing every day of the year, the dining facility is seeking to please its customers and draw more Airmen to its services.

Sam Sansone, food services officer for the facility, breaks down the mission to his Airmen like this, "Give the troops what they want. The troops are happy.

Happy troops get the mission done."

Master Sgt. Robert Boettner, dining facility manager, said he agrees with Mr. Sansone. "Our top priorities are to train for the military mission and support the Airmen living in the dorms. I want to do everything in our power to get the troops what they want to see at the dining facility."

A meal planning board is held once a quarter to help the dining facility know the desires of its patrons. Sergeant Boettner said he encourages Airmen to offer ideas and comments through the comment card

box located there or by visiting him directly during breakfast or lunch hours.

Patrons will see a new line of 100-percent fruit juices as a result of these avenues, and they have already seen the introduction of novelty ice creams.

But the dining facility wants to provide more than just four nutritious meals a day to its more than 600 patrons.

"We want the dining facility to be a relaxing and comfortable environment that Airmen want to eat at," explained Mr. Sansone.

This has been put into action through recent additions including interior décor renovations. The facility is fashioning its rooms into Samurai-themed and a Fuji-themed spaces. A foosball table is also available for entertainment, and patrons can anticipate a cyber café with both LAN and wireless access coming soon.

The facility also wants to save Airmen money, explained Mr. Sansone.

"Right now Airmen eat only one meal a day here,

which has been a trend since at least 1998," said Mr. Sansone. "If they would only eat one more meal per day here, Airmen could save approximately \$3,300 a year."

Another important part of the food services mission is the flight kitchen, which provides 100 meals per day to aircrew members and passengers. The facility also opens its line especially for aircrews from midnight to 5 a.m. if flight plans fall within that time.



# Club Malmstrom's new vision puts families first

**By Senior Airman John Parie**  
**Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont., Public Affairs**

Families at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont., sometimes wish there was affordable dining close by for those nights when cooking at home just isn't an option.

With the new direction the 341st Services Squadron is heading with Club Malmstrom, that will soon be a reality.

Currently, Club Malmstrom is in the process of transforming their fine dining into family-friendly dining.

"We are trading in the chandeliers and high-back chairs for booths and a mountain theme similar to that of the Malmstrom Inn," said Col. Kris Beasley, 341st Mission Support Group commander. "What we are trying to do is make it a kid friendly place where people want to go," he said.

While it will support all of Malmstrom's special events, such as promotion parties, Airman Leader-

ship School graduations and NCO inductions, the team at Club Malmstrom wants to have more family events like the Luau night they hosted recently.

"One of the changes in the works right now is renaming the club to the Grizzly Bend and making the menu more family orientated," said Colonel Beasley. "The new menu will lean more towards chilis and burgers and will contain less of the higher-end items."

"Overall I think the new club we envision will have a club house feel to it and families of all ranks will feel welcome there," he said. "Our bottom line is supporting the members of Team Malmstrom on and off duty."

"We will also be taking the mountain theme to all of the other services facilities across the base," he said. "Another big benefit of the club is the club card. "Being a club member saves you money all around base and entitles you to special discounts, such as half price Great Falls White Sox home game



**Club Malmstrom's most recent event, the Luau, was geared toward families. Photo by Christy Kynett**

tickets and discounts at Mitchell Pool and Eagle Falls Golf Course."

The club currently consists of the main dining area, the Fireside Lounge, the sports bar and the banquet room.



## Honor Guard gift

The 6th Services Squadron Honor Guard at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., was recently the recipient of several new caskets and an urn donated by Veteran's Funeral Care. The caskets will be used in training Honor Guard members for funeral details. The MacDill Honor Guard performs more than 500 funerals annually. Members of the Honor Guard look on as Jim Rudolph, president of Veterans Funeral Care, and Blair Krivier (left) present the donations to Master Sgt. Charles Greer and Capt. Cecil Johnson (right). Courtesy photo

# Rockin' out at RAF Lakenheath



Airman Ronald Riker, 48th Maintenance Operations Squadron plays guitar for All Day Buzz during the recent Battle of the Bands. Among the eight bands that performed, All Day Buzz won the grand prize. Photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew O'Rourke

**By Airman 1st Class  
Michael Hess  
RAF Lakenheath Public  
Affairs**

48th Avenue, the Royal Air Force Lakenheath community center, was packed with Airmen during the second annual Battle of the Bands Saturday.

Eight bands showed up from all over the United Kingdom in hopes of winning the cheers and votes from RAF Lakenheath Airmen.

The bands included local service members and dependent bands and British bands. The bands performed music of an eclectic taste – indie, punk and cover bands.

All Day Buzz, a local band, won the show with its covers of popular songs.

"We had been practicing for at least three to four weeks," said Airman Ronald Riker, 48th Maintenance

Operations Squadron. "When we were announced as the winners, man the feeling was indescribable."

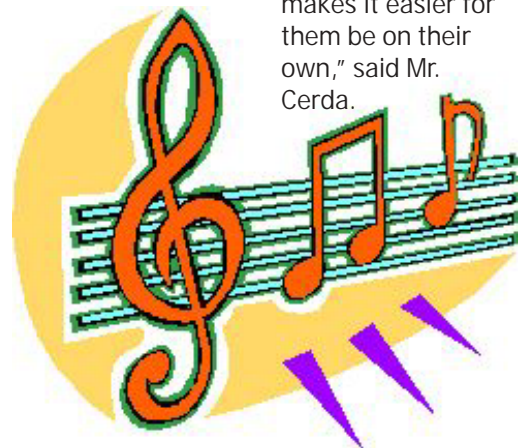
Several Airmen first organized the free concert last year, and many bands returned from last year's competition, which was held at the Lakenheath High School football field. The change of location came as a surprise to some people who felt the football field was a prime location.

"The first thing I heard when asking about how last years Battle of the Bands went was, 'It

was great except for the rain' – now the weather is out of the equation," said Ruben Cerda, 48th Avenue director.

"It was a great show. They played every sort of music," said Airman 1st Class Nathan Gates, 48th Equipment Maintenance Squadron non-destructive inspection, who volunteered to set up and tear down the stage and work security.

"Doing events and programs for them to take advantage of at a little to no cost so they can enjoy their time at the 48th makes it easier for them be on their own," said Mr. Cerda.



# Dining facilities keep Airmen fed around the clock

**By Danielle Toste**  
Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., Public Affairs

Each day, hundreds of Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.'s enlisted members receive hot, fresh meals from what some would say are two of the most important buildings on base: the dining facilities.

"We have two dining facilities at Holloman: Shifting Sands Dining Hall, which is the main facility, and the Westerner Dining Facility for those who work out on BEAR Base and the west side," said Master Sgt. Al Maronie, 49<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron food services superintendent.

The Shifting Sands serves four

meals a day, including a midnight meal. They also prepare flight kitchen box meals for those enlisted members unable to leave their work place.

The Westerner serves only breakfast and lunch.

The dining facilities are open to all active-duty enlisted members.

The Westerner is open to any officer who works on BEAR Base or the west side of the base.

Shifting Sands is open to officers who are on TDY and to those, designated in writing, that are eating there to determine the quality of the food.

During exercises, officers who are working night shifts may eat the midnight meal at Shifting Sands.



**Airman Chris Wilson of the 49th Services Squadron, serves a customer a sandwich recently during lunch at the Shifting Sands Dining Facility. Photo by Senior Airman Erik Somppi**



**Airman 1st Class Suzanne Attebery, 49th Services Squadron food specialist, prepares food recently for the lunch rush hour at Westerner Dining Facility. Photo by Danielle Toste**

Military retirees may also eat at either dining facility any time as long as it does not interfere with personnel who use meal cards.

"Our main focus is the meal card holders because we are their primary source of food," Sergeant Maronie said.

There are approximately 32 Services employees assigned to the dining facilities.

It takes these personnel about an

hour and a half to prepare breakfast and three to four hours to prepare lunch and dinner.

"We strive to be the best and do our best with our resources because these Airmen rely on us to give them high-quality food," Sergeant Maronie said.

Every third Wednesday of the month, Shifting Sands has an Airmen Appreciation day where they

serve a steak and shrimp dinner.

The dining facilities are some of the cleanest facilities on base. Last year Services won The Food Service Excellence Award among Air Combat Command bases and is striving to take that title for the second year in a row, Sergeant Maronie said.

"Everyone who works for food services is dedicated to their job," he said.



# Extravanganza!

**By Staff Sgt. Robert Wollenberg**  
Bolling Air Force Base, D.C., Public Affairs

The 11th Services Division at Bolling Air Force, D.C., sponsored the "Spirit of Services Extravaganza" recently at the Bolling Clubs.

More than 650 people attended the event that culminated a two-month-long campaign designed to reintroduce Department of Defense members to the programs of the Services Division.

"The 'Spirit of Services' campaign was created to spread the word about the many programs offered to Department of Defense members and their families by the 11th Services Division," said Vicky Thompson, 11th Services Division marketing director. "We offer so many great facilities and programs but often the average military or family member doesn't have a good understanding of all that is available to them."

She added it's services' goal to change that.

"So, we created a media buzz in our publications and in our facilities to entice our customers to come in and learn about what we have to offer firsthand," she said. "And they did!"

Throughout the eight weeks of the campaign, Services facilities racked up 8,200 entries for the drawing for a trip to Orlando, Fla.

Among the festivities was a Texas Hold'em tournament, door prizes, children's activities with free food, a buffet and more.



**Children and parents participate in games recently at the Bolling Clubs, Bolling Air Force Base, D.C., as part of the "Spirit of Services" extravaganza. Activities included carnival games, crafts, face painting, a bouncy castle and free food. Photo by Senior Airman Daniel DeCook**

"The extravaganza was a first for us," said Capt. Todd Alcott, the deputy director of the 11th Services Division. "We combined our club appreciation, Texas Hold'em and a wrap-up celebration that marketed everything Services provides to our community."

According to Captain Alcott, Services is rethinking the way it does business.

"Members are savvy, and want to see tangible benefits," he said.

"Today we are marketing benefits to club members in a wide variety of Services programs. Last month, we directly mailed \$75 in coupons to club members to use at the club, Slip Inn, Pettini's, auto skills and the marina, to name a few."

Top prize at the Texas Hold'em tourney was a \$250 Best Buy gift certificate. Door prizes given away

throughout the day included two tickets to Medieval Times, a Hawthorn Suites Hotel stay, NBA merchandise, noise cancellation headphones and more.

Children's activities included six carnival games, crafts, face painting, bouncy castle and free food. More than 800 hamburgers and hot dogs were given away along with chips and drinks.

Other giveaways included more than 50 door prizes, 4,000 kids' prizes and eight other prizes given away to the weekly winners who competed for them by wearing a hula outfit and shooting paper wads into a trash basket.

"The bottom line is that we want our members to feel they have 'undeniable benefits' and the greatest value is to be a club member," said Captain Alcott.



# Eglin Services readiness program named best in AF

By Capt. Victoria Keegan  
Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Public Affairs

The 96th Services Squadron readiness program at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., won first place in the Air Force, but the superintendent says it couldn't have been done without support from many people on base.

"We have overwhelming support from the services functionals," said Master Sgt. Philip Prendergast, 96th SVS superintendent of readiness, mortuary plans and programs. "They help us make sure our people are trained and know what they're doing before they deploy."

The job of the readiness pro-

*"During a deployment, our facilities have to operate with only half the people here. But with the quality people we have and the training they have under their belts, we are able to do our day-to-day mission and ensure our customers get the 100 percent quality service we always provide."*

-- Master Sgt. Philip Prendergast  
96th Services Squadron superintendent

gram is to ensure all services professionals are trained in all aspects of the career field.

For Eglin, it includes 13 different unit tasking codes, a few of which are mortuary affairs, food service, lodging, search and recovery and sports and fitness.

Someone may deploy as food service, but have to perform search and recovery duties during their deployment.

Sergeant Prendergast said they need to be diverse so they can fill in where needed.

Keeping their

people trained is a full-time job because the deployment commitment tasking is large, he said.

Only a few people didn't deploy last year, and the squadron is gearing up for another deployment in September, during which it will deploy one-half of its personnel.

"During a deployment, our facilities have to operate with only half the people here," Sergeant Prendergast said.

"But with the quality people we have and the training they have under

their belts, we are able to do our day-to-day mission and ensure our customers get the 100 percent quality service we always provide."

One of the program's accomplishments included hot meal support after Hurricane Ivan.

Within three hours of power restoration, the Breeze dining facility opened and served 1,852 hot meals, the most hot meals ever served in one day here.

They also manage the only volunteer honor guard in the

command, which performed on 265 occasions in 12 counties last year.

Sergeant Prendergast said the program stays successful because of the support and interest from base leadership.

The services team developed a spreadsheet which tracked all personnel training with 100 percent accountability; deployed in two expeditionary rotations; trained 33 family liaison and summary court officers; designed a readiness status board and logged more

than 200 home-station training hours.

"This is the first time that AFMC has won the Air Force Services Readiness Award," said Lt. Col. John

Williams, 96th Services Squadron commander. "Growing up in this command my whole career, we have taken a hit for not being a 'deploying' command, but in my short time as commander, 100 percent of my personnel were tasked to deploy."

"Our readiness office did an outstanding job ensuring they were trained in all areas of services so they made an immediate impact upon arrival into (their deployed location)."

# Team Dover chips in to help CDC maintain safety standard

**By Jim Pacer**  
436<sup>th</sup> Services  
Squadron

Each day the Dover Air Force Base, Del., Child Development Center's playground comes alive with more than 200 youngsters socializing among themselves and trying out their motor coordination skills on slides, swings and various climbing apparatus.

And as every adult knows, what goes up must eventually come down, which is why the CDC protects its children with Consumer Product

Safety Commission-approved materials throughout the playground surface.

According to Marti Hosterman, 436<sup>th</sup> Services Family Member Program Flight Chief, more than 200,000 children are treated each year in U.S. hospital emergency rooms for injuries associated with playground equipment. Most injuries occur when children fall from the equipment onto the ground.

Wood chips are one of the most effective means of providing protection around playground equipment.

"Installing and maintaining wood chips enables the CDC to maintain the safety requirements for playgrounds set forth by the CPSC," said Ms. Hosterman. "According to the regulating organization, playgrounds are required to have the fall-zones lined with a variety of surfacing materials, including sand, mulch, grass or poured-in-place rubber to help prevent injuries."

However, materials need to be periodically replenished due to excessive wear and deterioration from the weather. By

replacing the wood chips on an as-needed basis, the CDC ensures there is good impact absorbing material to reduce the risk of injuries from falls.

Throughout May and June, over 60 tons of sand and 100 cubic yards of woodchips were delivered to the CDC to replenish the depth and fall zone areas of five playgrounds adjoined to the center.

The staff soon realized a massive task of this nature simply couldn't be done alone. A call for help was made, and the result was an outpouring from all different sections of the base.

Members from 436<sup>th</sup> SVS chipped in first to spread and distribute the sand. Civil Engineer members next assisted with a crew manning a front-end loader, a dump truck and a Bobcat, and distributed sand inside the playgrounds. Troops from the 9<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron deposited

the majority of the woodchips on playground areas, with CE again following with a large sweeper. Then, over the course of the next 10 days, two shifts of parent volunteers from the 9<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron came out and topped off the playground woodchips, readying it for playtime.

As a result of this volunteer group effort, the CDC ultimately saved more than \$10,000 in costs that would normally have been spent on outside sources.

In return, the money saved will be applied to purchases of necessary supplies, materials and equipment for the children.

"The CDC staff would like to extend their thanks the everyone, including active duty military, DoD civilians, and their family members for lending their helping hands," said Ms. Hosterman. "We couldn't have done it without you."



Volunteers, Dover Air Force Base, Del., CDC staff and the children help prepare the playground with the finishing touch. Photo by Jim Pacer

# Honor Guard takes national award

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**By Tech. Sgt. Stephen Bailey**  
**Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint**  
**Reserve Base, Carswell Field, Texas,**  
**Public Affairs**

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The 301st Fighter Wing Honor Guard takes center stage, not as the presenter but as the recipient of the Air Force Association's highest achievement – the 2005 Citation of Honor.

This annual honor is given in recognition of outstanding contributions by an individual or group in the development of aerospace power.

AFA's chairman, Pat Condon, remarked how the 301st Honor Guard has always led the way in outstanding performances and in displaying a sterling image in regard to national defense and aerospace.

"This is an outstanding award recognizing one of the Air Force's best time-honored traditions," said Col. Max Mendoza, 301st Mission Support Group commander.

"I am so very proud of the men and women who serve within this wing's honor guard unit. Their accomplishments and their phenomenal achievements with both the military and civilian communities have not gone unnoticed and are finally being rewarded on a tremendous scale."

From its inception in the early 1990s known as the "color guard," the 301st FW team had more than 32 volunteer members who were eager to step up and represent the military during ceremonies and formal presentations.

"Those were great days of service to the base and the community," said Senior Master Sgt. Ben Combs, former honor guard

member and still strong supporter of today's honor guard. "We had great fun together in traveling, building camaraderie, making new friends, and in representing the military in a positive light – it was a great experience for everyone."

However, during the next few years, the team lost membership because of conflicting time schedules and personal constraints limiting the team's manning to a dedicated few. Officials agree that it has just been within the last few years that the honor guard has grown much stronger through better leadership and command support.

"I am so proud of the hard work the honor guard has done, not only to earn this award, but in creating a rebirth in membership and in embracing a renewed conviction for community outreach and involvement," said Colonel Mendoza. "Master Sgt. Ross Wood and his team should be highly credited for a job well done."

"Being a part of the 301st Fighter Wing honor guard is one of the best things I could have done for my military career," said Tech. Sgt. Udrika Baldwin, a five-year team member and lead trainer.

"This award is an honor to all of us who serve – a recognition of the hard work and dedication each member contributes every day."

Notable accomplishments cited by the AFA award committee included the 301st HG taking responsibility as the lead training element for the Joint Service Honor Guard. In this capacity, the team flawlessly supervised and performed in more than 1,900 military funeral honors at the Dallas/ Fort

Worth National Cemetery and at local cemeteries.

The team also went on to coordinate the Joint Service Color Guard and all related protocol for the Dallas Military Ball — working directly with the U.S. Army Command Staff and the "Old Guard" honor guard in Washington, D.C., to ensure appropriate protocol was observed.

The team's efforts were lauded by Gen. Eric Shinseki, Army Chief of Staff. "The 301st honor guard continues to make impressive and significant contributions to the success of its honor guard team as well as its outstanding reflection of the Air Force Reserve Command as a whole," said Maj. Gen. David Tanzi, Air Force Reserve Command vice commander.

The accomplishments even continued on a personal level when two 301st HG team members had an unprecedented sweep of both awards from Air Force Reserve Command, Master Sgt. Paul Chavez, 2004 Program Manager of the Year and Tech. Sgt. Karen Albin, 2004 Guardsman of the Year.

"My honor guard service has taught me so much in regards to leadership and teamwork," said

Sergeant Baldwin. "I would not trade this experience for anything and I look forward to learning so much more."

A final comment came from Air Force Honor Guard officials at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C., recognizing the 301st HG for continuing to set the standard among joint operations — far and away leading all other bases in number and quality of services and functions performed.

At [www.macdillservices.com](http://www.macdillservices.com)

## New Services Web site launched

**By Nick Stubbs**  
MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., Public Affairs

Outgrowing its home on the MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., Internet and Intranet Web sites, the Base Marketing Department debuted a domain name all its own on the World Wide Web recently.

On the Internet at [www.macdillservices.com](http://www.macdillservices.com), the Web site remains a work in progress but offers enough features and information that it was decided to get the show on the road now and add to it "as we go along," said Wendy Foster, Marketing director.

The site, designed by staffer Web guru Shane Bolda, is a clean and user-friendly portal to information about all MacDill services and products on base. For those who play the popular Match Up game, there is a link to enter game pieces. Golf and bowling specials, fitness and sports programs, recreation and entertainment, along with dining information, all are included now or will be soon as site is developed.

Hours and in some cases fee schedules and prices are listed or will be as the site progresses. A handy pop-up window with a phone

directory of various base services is featured.

"We just got to a point where we needed a site of our own," said Mrs. Foster. "We have a lot more control this way and can update it immediately and get information out a lot faster."

Mrs. Foster encourages anyone who uses base services or is interested in keeping in the know, to visit the site and bookmark it for regular re-visits.

"We will be keeping it current," she pledged. "The idea is to have a place where anyone can go to check out what's going on or is upcoming."



### ***Bowl for the Stars & Strikes winner***

From left, George Wolf, Grand Forks Air Force Base, S.D., Bowling Center director and Capt. Paul Swenson 319th Services Director, pose with Nathanael Clegg, local monthly winner in the Air Force Services Stars & Strikes program. The young man won a Tornado Warning Red and Blue bowling ball by accumulating punches on three levels of punch cards. Stars & Strikes was active in 75 bowling centers nationwide. Photo by Christine Davis





**By Julie Rich**  
436<sup>th</sup> Services  
Squadron

Ten participants hit the Dover Air Force Base, Del., Landings Club's stage running recently in preparation for the second annual Dover Idol.

Days earlier, 20 active duty and dependent contestants auditioned for an opportunity to be one of the 10 finalists in this year's show.

Three judges from the local community, all accredited music teachers, were charged with the task of discerning which 10 contestants would make it through.

The quality of the talent forced the judges to hone their musical ears.

"There is no doubt that the finalists deserve to be there and now it is up to the general public to decide the final winner," said Capt. Myla Abejuela, acting Business Support Flight chief.

One of the judges, Alan O'Day, producer/director of productions at a local church in Dover and vocal coach said, "The talent is unbelievable."

Every one of the 10 contestants put on a great show by showcasing their musical abilities and their ability to perform."

The top 10 contestants were Senior Airman Marc Barnes, Air National Guard; Tech. Sgt. Letisia Eddy, 436<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron; Stephanie Fellabaum, 436<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron family member; Staff Sgt. Jeff Kach, 436<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron; Chris Watson, 436<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron family member; Erica McIntosh, 436<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron family member; Joshua Walton, retiree and family member; Anita Spangler, 9<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron family member; Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Robb Kalert, 436<sup>th</sup> CES and



After three weeks of performances, Stephanie Fellabaum, 436<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron family member, was chosen by the audience and walked away \$1,000 richer in the recent Dover Air Force Base, Del., "Dover Idol" competition. Courtesy photo

Jessica Keep, 436<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Maintenance Squadron.

"Our show is taking on more of a 'celebrity' theme this year, with make-overs from Ciseaux hair design studio and spa, wardrobe selections from AAFES and professional video taping, compliments of Marston's Critical Communication.

Excerpts of the show will air on the Dover Base Channel each week," said Lisa Nonnenmacher, 436<sup>th</sup> Services

Squadron Commercial Sponsorship Coordinator. "The \$1,000 cash grand prize and extensive array of door prizes are possible because of our sponsors – Royal Farms, Office Eagle, FSNB, Cingular Wireless, SPRINT, Mike's Famous Harley Davidson, Dover Downs Hotel and Conference Center.

"Special thanks to COMCAST and Dover Post for the media support they are providing."

***Here's your sign ...*****Hickam infants talk without speaking**

**Story and photos by  
Kirsten Tacker  
Hickam Air Force  
Base, Hawaii, Public  
Affairs**

Hearing children are taught American Sign Language at the Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii Child Development Center.

There are 152 children in the CDC. Children from 6 months to 3 years-old are involved with this program in 12 out of the 13 rooms.

Sign language for the hearing empowers non-verbal children to communicate.

"The 2-year-olds are signing sentences and songs

even though they are talking," said Myrna Jurado, director of the CDC.

The 6 to 12-month-olds do a lot of the basics. The first three words they learn to sign are milk, eat and more.

"Usually our older infants pick it up first and some of our younger ones," said Sabrina Witham, a child development program technician.

"We started in my room as just a room project," said Sheri Thomas, child development program technician. Now when a child signs for a cracker or cookie they have

their needs met quicker because childcare providers no longer have to guess what a child wants.

"These children were speaking so clearly, the aggression level had dropped, and the noise level had dropped," said Ms. Thomas.

The program really took off and they implemented it as a center wide program less than a year later.

"I'm with the 12 to 24-month-olds and this is the age group we started it in, this gave them the control back," said Ms. Thomas. "A child can communi-



**Kayla Lim, 23 months old, signs "bird" while 15 month old Isabella Ovalle looks on at the Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, Child Development Center.**

cate up to eighty signs by nine months of age."

By 9 months old, a child may not speak more than one or two words.

"Now they can tell us if they are wet and want a diaper change," said Ms. Thomas. "The most important thing is to say the word as you're signing it, so they connect the word.

"The most important thing is continuing what the children already

learned," said Ms. Thomas.

The CDC's main issue was certain unacceptable behaviors from the children. Now thanks to the use of ASL at the CDC, non-verbal children are highly communicative, as a result there has been a noticeable reduction in frustration and negative behaviors.



**Sheri Thomas, CDC, shows the sign "more" to 17 months old Keilani Valenzuela and Jeven Gathers.**



### **Surprise!**

Col. Terrence Feehan, 377<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing commander at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., congratulates Steve Holland, Kirtland Inn lodging manager, with the surprise announcement that the inn had won the Air Force Innkeeper Award. This was the first year Kirtland competed at the Air Force level. Photo by Todd Berenger

## **Beale Services training named best**

**By Staff Sgt. Brynna Bryant**  
Beale Air Force Base, Calif., Public Affairs

Members of the 940th Services Flight at Beale Air Force Base, Calif., were recently honored for their hard work and innovation.

The Services Team was recognized for three distinct and highly competitive awards: Air Force Services Training Program of the Year, Air Force Civilian Technician of the Year and California Air Force Association Officer of the Year.

The Air Force Services Training Program of the Year award for 2004 went to 940th Services Flight members 1st Lt. Erika Yu, mortuary operations officer, Chief Master Sgt. Sandra Scamell, mortuary affairs superintendent, Master Sgt. Theresa James, readiness assistant and Staff Sgt. Daphne Schang, readiness journeyman for their innovation and training program.

"We were so excited to receive the award, we worked very hard," said Lieutenant Yu. "It was a good year for us, we had four great

managers, but without the support and hard work of the troops we couldn't have done our jobs," she said.

"Training is one of the most difficult things we do in the Reserves, because time is so limited," said Master Sgt. Bryan Nicolos, NCOIC, Prime RIBS, 940th SVF. "Having this team work so well together to not only complete the mission but to exceed expectations, benefits not only our people but those we help as well," said Sergeant Nicolos, adding "We're able to do our jobs better and more efficiently when programs like this exist."

Mistie Bishop won the 2004 Air Force Civilian Technician of the Year. Ms. Bishop was recognized for her exceptional work and involvement in the Base and local community.

"I was really proud, and shocked because it's a really competitive award," Ms. Bishop said.

Civilians Air Force wide competed for the award.

"Mistie is the glue that keeps this unit running," said Lieutenant Yu.

"She's a big part of the team," said Sergeant Nicolos. "When we converted to a flight we had to take on a lot of new responsibilities, Mistie took a big chunk of the administrative side and ran with it because that's just who she is, hardworking and always giving at least 110%," Sergeant Nicolos said.

Maj. Lowell Bingham, chief mortuary affairs, 940th SVF, was presented with the California State Air Force Association Officer of the Year award for his exceptional leadership skills and commitment to the overall mission.

Major Bingham was commended for his efforts at Dover Air Force Base, Del., performing Port Mortuary duties in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

"All of our people are winners; the specific members mentioned in the awards are just a portion of the potential Services as a whole encompasses.

"I'm proud of all of my folks," said Maj. Dale Pudwill, commander, 940th SVF.



# Edwards searches for 'Idol' talent

**By Airman 1st Class  
Francesca Carrano  
Edwards Air Force  
Base, Calif., Public  
Affairs**

The crowd roared, cheering on contestants as judges tried to find Edwards most undiscovered talent.

Musical talent of all ages gathered at the Oasis Community Center recently to showcase their abilities during the Edwards Idol Competition.

From rock songs to ballads, the event featured music of varying genres.

Contestants were divided into three categories, pre-teen

vocal, teen vocal and adult vocal. Aside from the contestants the crowd was also entertained by special performances featuring Edwards team members Senior Airman Cerrissiah Buck and Tech. Sgt. Kirt Brooks, both from the 95th Security Forces Squadron, as well as a musical composition by the local band "The Vix."

Edwards Idol served as the base level forerunner to the Air Force-wide Family and Teen Talent Contest.

Artists who inspired the contestants

were as varied as the pieces performed that night.

Airman 1st Class Nicole Giacomini, 95th Air Base Wing Financial Management office, the adult vocalist winner, described her musical beginnings and inspiration as coming from small town musicians sleeping on couches and working the local scenes.

"They are raw songs with genuine soul. My inspiration will always be from 'the underground,'" Airman Giacomini said.

Whatever the musical background,



**Tech. Sgt. Kirk Brooks, 95th Security Forces Squadron, entertains the crowd as part of a special performance.**

contestants shared their love of music with everyone in attendance.

"I haven't had the opportunity to perform as much since joining the

service and have missed music a lot. Having a chance to rock out for three minutes was a refreshing outlet," Airman Giacomini said.

Amanda Smith took first place for pre-teen vocals and Jenna Alquist won first place in the teen vocal competition.

As the adult vocalist winner, Airman Giacomini won the opportunity to be considered as a new member of Tops In Blue 2006.

All three winners will also go forward for consideration in the Air Force Worldwide Talent Contests.



**Senior Airman Victoria Dougherty, 412th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, belts out her song as she competes to become the new Edwards Idol recently at the Oasis Community Center. Photos by Chad Bellay**



**Airman 1st Class Nicole Giacomini, Financial Management office, performs her original composition during the Edwards Idol competition.**



# '55 Chevy takes top award at Hill Rod Run Car Show

**By Shad West**  
Hill Air Force Base,  
Utah, Public Affairs

The 17th annual Hill Air Force Base, Utah, Rod Run revved its engine recently at Centennial Park to kick off Summer Bash 2005.

The car show included everything from classic cars to a one-of-a-kind Jeep and every type of vehicle imaginable in between. With 28 categories, this was the biggest car show that the Skills Development Center has hosted to date.

"It was a wonderful turn out," said David Ovard, Director of the Skills Development Center. "We had

118 entries that competed in 28 different categories this year. It was a wonderful selection of cars and an excellent way to spend a Sunday afternoon"

Those who entered the event were given T-shirts and dash plaques — winners of the different categories were given large plaques.

Spectators at the show had chances to win door prizes and vote for the people's choice award. That award was given to Glen and Carol Beltz for their 1953 Ford F-100 Pick up.

The coveted Commander's Choice award was a stained glass art



This 1955 Chevrolet sedan won the Commander's Choice Award at the 17th Annual Hill Air Force Base, Utah, Rod Run held at Centennial Park, recently. This classic Chevy is owned by Bob and Jamie Laird. Awards were given in 28 different categories. The car show was hosted by the Hill Skills Development Center. Photo by Amy Munnell

piece depicting a classic car created by Ron Snorgrass.

The award, which took 10 hours to create, was presented to Bob and Jamie Laird for their 1955 Chevy sedan. The car was chosen by Col. John Clark, 75th Air Base Wing vice commander.

Colonel Clark said he had a hard time picking a winner because the competition was extremely tough.

"I scored the Chevy at the top of the field," he said. "One of our three Air Force core values is excellence in all we do and it

struck me that the Lairds exhibited this core value perfectly in the attention to detail and dedication they poured into this restored vehicle. It was in immaculate condition, had a lot of original parts, was very unique, and was an extremely beautiful automobile."

The show which is unique from other car show events, lasted all afternoon and included traditional summer-time fair, burgers and hotdogs, grilled on site by Club Hill.

"What's really great about our car show is that all the participants are

involved in the judging for the different categories," Mr. Ovard said. "The show is set in a really laid-back atmosphere with Centennial Park being the perfect backdrop."

Mr. Ovard also said that many of the entrants are repeat participants because every year the Arts and Crafts Center updates the awards and T-shirt design with some of the previous year's winning vehicles.

"I think one of the reasons they come back is to see if it is going to be their car recognized on the updated design."

# NEWS PEOPLE



## Robins Services spotlight

Martha "Mama" Newton invites everyone to come to Pizza Depot for pizza, burgers, salads and subs made with their fresh baked bread. Pizza Depot is located in Bldg. 767 at the corner of Ninth and Macon streets inside the Smith Community Center at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. Photo by Sue Sapp

## Laughlin XLER

### Tech. Sgt. Troy Jarvis

47th Services Division,  
Individual Mobilization Augmentee

#### Hometown:

My hometown is Alexandria, La., but I grew up in Dallas

#### Family:

Wife, Brenda (of 10 years), Children—Breanna, Brennen, Troy Jr., Jonathan, Nicole and Charles

#### Time at Laughlin:

20 months

#### Time in service:

19 years military, 7 months civil service

#### Greatest accomplishments:

Establishing and pastoring my first church in Greenville, S.C. in 2001 and marrying my wife, Brenda

#### Hobbies:

Reading, mechanics (any kind) and traveling

#### Bad habit:

Drinking too much coffee, which leads to not getting enough rest

#### Favorite movie:

"Boomerang" with Eddie Murphy. Things seem to come back around

If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why?

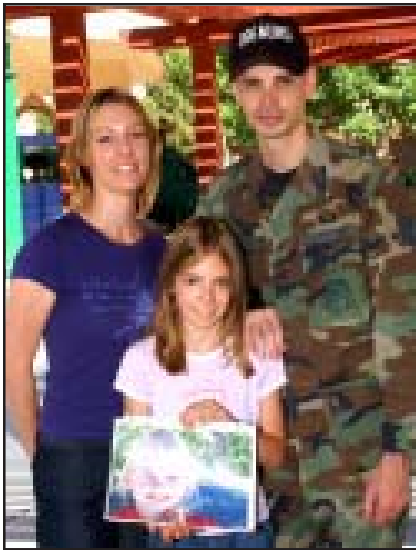


Tech. Sgt. Troy Jarvis. Photo by Airman 1st Class Olufemi Owolabi

This question is difficult to answer with only one person because there have been many who have influenced me in my lifetime. Naturally, my father because I never had the opportunity to get to know him. But if I could add one other person, Jesus Christ, because He could answer the questions my father could not.

"Since Tech. Sgt. Jarvis Troy arrived, he has quickly adapted to the ever-changing Services operations tempo; he's a great asset to us and an extremely dedicated and diligent worker," said 1st Lt. Ademola Elliotte, combat support flight chief, 47th Services Division. "He is a true example of total force!"

# 9-year-old wins first place in photography contest



Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., youth program member, Tyler Greening, 9, is one of several first place national winners of the 2005 Image- Maker National Photography Contest.

Ms. Greening won the photo essay category for youth ages nine and younger for her photo titled "My Best Friend."

Ms. Greening's work was one of 20 photographs from six regional judging sites sent to the Boys and

Girls Club of America national headquarters in Atlanta, Ga. As the winner for her category, she will travel to Orlando, Fla., for an awards ceremony.

Photos selected at the national level will be shown at the Boys and Girls Club of America's national conference and displayed throughout the year.

These photos will remain on permanent display at BGCA headquarters.

**Kyle Greening, center, and her parents, Christene and Tech Sgt. James Greening, show her photograph, which received first place in a photo essay contest. Photo by Keith Peterson**

# Mildenhall youth wins National art award

**By Mandy Smith-Nethercott  
USAFE SVS**

Ashley Mansfield of Royal Air Force Mildenhall Youth Programs recently took home top honors in Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Fine Arts Competition. Ms. Mansfield, age 16, one of 37 national winners, placed first in her age group Monochromatic Drawing category.

BGCA's Fine Arts program, which has been sponsored by L'Oreal Kids for the past nine years, is a comprehensive initiative that promotes creativity in a variety of media as well as encouraging artistic skills and cultural enrichment.

In order to qualify for the national competition, members of

Boys & Girls Clubs across the United States first compete in a local Club exhibit before moving on to a regional competition.

Winners are chosen in four age categories and among 10 different artistic disciplines, including monochromatic drawing, multicolored drawing, pastels, water color, oil/ acrylic, print making, mixed media, collage, sculpture and group project. More than 900 Clubs had members who exhibited works in this year's national competition.

Ms. Mansfield will receive a plaque from BGCA and her artwork, entitled *A Closer Look*, will be displayed throughout the year at various Boys & Girls Club events and highlighted at BGCA's national conference in Boston next spring.



**Ashley Mansfield from Royal Air Force Mildenhall took home top honors in the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Fine Arts Competition. Courtesy photo**



# Shaw civilian earns AF award



Keesha Welch plays a card game with three children during the Shaw Air Force Base, S.C. school-age program. Photo by Tarsha Storey

**By Tarsha Storey**  
Shaw Air Force Base,  
S.C., Public Affairs

One Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., member's plan for her work day may include a visit to a local ice cream plant and water park. Sound like the job of your dreams? It is for Keesha Welch.

Ms. Welch, 20th Services Squadron lead assistant for the school-age program, has been

named Air Force Civilian Specialist of the Year.

She said she is fortunate to have a job where she can go on field trips and spend time with the people she works for — the children of Team Shaw.

"I didn't expect to win the award. There is no way I could have received it without the help of my co-workers. Everything here is a team effort. When

one of us shines, we all shine," said Ms. Welch.

Even though she has been working at Shaw three years, the Air Force has always been a part of her life. Ms. Welch said she grew up traveling to many places because of her active-duty Air Force mother.

"Because I grew up all over the world as a military child, I have been able to

relate to the traveling and PCSing that most military children go through. I feel it's important to help children understand, even though we may have grown up in different cultures, we still have things in common with other children," said Ms. Welch.

Ms. Welch said she is currently helping the children discover common interests. She's teaching them new skills such as cooking and gardening.

Even though Ms. Welch's job focuses on children, she is also responsible for helping parents and other people network. She leads the Parents Night Out Program that offers free childcare and gives parents an evening to themselves.

"Ms. Welch has superbly mastered both her own duties and, since Oct. 3, the duties of the school-age program coordinator. Her work initiated a veterans program in which 18 children gave cards and gifts to 50 local veterans. She has also volunteered for more than 350 hours to help other state and local community programs," said Deborah MacQueen, 20th Services Squadron Youth Programs director.

Not only is Ms. Welch involved in the local community, but she said she is also involved in school where she is striving to augment her associate's degree with a bachelor's degree. Her goal is to one day operate her own youth center.

**Fill'er up**  
Retired Chief Master Sgt. Gino Conti, who's been a Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., Enlisted Club member for more than 64 years, fills his plate during the last club membership night. Photo by Pam Wickham







### ***Serving the community***

Airman 1st Class Julia Loustalot, 341st Services Squadron at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont., serves Hurricane Katrina evacuees at New Orleans International Airport. Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard

## ***Lodging manager brings years of experience to Vance***

**By Katy Drost**  
**71st Services Squadron**

Lodging administrator Billie Lunday knows just about every nook and cranny of the Cherokee Lodge. After 24 years, it's practically her second home.

"I started as a housekeeper here in 1981," Ms. Lunday said.

The lodge has made many changes since then, most recently in May of this year, when 37 visiting quarter rooms were renovated. This was a continuation of renovations of 26 other rooms in fiscal 2004.

As administrator, Ms. Lunday hopes to continue lodging's primary goal. "We want to provide the best customer service in the Air Force," she said. "We aim for world-class service."

Lodging visitors enjoy clean rooms with amenities including hair dryers, ice machines, free washer and dryers and free movies and toys from the front desk. Lodging rooms can be reserved by active duty or retired military for themselves or their guests.

Ms. Lunday said the Cherokee Lodge has rooms available most days of the year, although reservations may be more difficult during a student class graduation.

"I believe that lodging is one of the very best benefits Services offers our military," said director of services Diane McCurdy. "There is no other place in town that will offer you the cleanliness, safety and amenities provided at Cherokee Lodge at such a discounted price."

## ***You're my idol, my Ali Idol***



Left photo: Airman 1st Class Juliet Saunders, 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, received thunderous applause after she worked up the nerve to take her musical talents out of the smoke pit (where she is often seen playing guitar) and straight into the fire at the Ali Idol talent contest. Singing two of her own creations, New Life and an untitled piece, Airman Saunders won over the judges, who took their job seriously and spiced up the event with one liners like "That would be great if it were just you in the shower" and "I don't know what to say except you're a great electrician." The triple-threat entertainer writes her own music, sings and plays guitar. She beat out 14 performers to sweep up the \$200 first-place prize. Photos by Master Sgt. Maurice Hessel

Right photo: Ali Idol judges (from left to right) Master Sgt. Donald Bowles, 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron; Capt. Teresa Rose, 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron; and Lt. Col. David Rearick, 407th Air Expeditionary Group deputy commander, battle it out to compete for the position of the barbed-tongued critic made infamous by Simon Cowell, American Idol celebrity.

# Luke SVS civilian shares lessons learned during 6,100-mile motorcycle road trip

**By Greg Peary**  
56<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron

Every motorcyclist looks forward to hitting the road, whether for the commute to work or, in my case, a two-week vacation to visit family. I usually make two visits a year to Maine to spend time with relatives; but this time, I decided to take the motorcycle. It would be a great adventure. I knew the 6,100 mile trip from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., to Maine and back would be a road trip of a whole different magnitude; especially solo.

I left early on July 8, returning on schedule on July 24, traveling through 20 states with more than 112 hours of riding.

I was fortunate to have warm, sunny, clear weather for the trip east traveling through 13 states.

The same couldn't be said for the trip back. Severe thunderstorms and high winds slowed my progress and challenged my riding skills.

All in all, it was a long, but extremely rewarding trip.

There is just something about being a long way from home with just your motorcycle. A friend once told me "if I have to explain it to you, you wouldn't understand."

Following is some information and advice I developed as a result of my trip, and some lessons learned from the experience.

## Pre-trip musts

Be familiar with your motorcycle, its capabilities, handling characteristics and idiosyncrasies. You'll be on it a long time, and you don't need any surprises.

If you have never taken a rider course, or if it's been several years since your last class, sign up for a refresher.

Make a packing list of everything you will want to take with you, but focus on the absolute essentials.

Have the motorcycle checked by an experienced mechanic prior to leaving.

If the bike is water cooled, have the cooling system serviced. Ensure the tires are in good condition.

Replace the brake pads and brake/clutch fluid if needed.

Replace the spark plugs and have the air cleaner serviced

or replaced. If the battery is more than a year old, replace it.

Plan your route thoroughly. Write down all major route changes, and highway loops around major cities.

Obtain emergency road service coverage.

## Personal protective equipment

A helmet is the most important single piece of equipment you can wear. A heavy riding jacket, made of leather or synthetic material with built in armor will help protect you. Bright colored clothing or clothing with reflective piping will help with visibility at night.

## Lessons learned

I did not accurately estimate the time I would spend refueling the motorcycle. I spent approximately two hours each day at gas stations.

Have cash (especially coins) easily available for tolls.

If you know for sure where you'll be staying, make a reservation.

Travel on weekdays rather than weekends if possible. Traffic is heavy during morning and afternoon rush hours near large cities, but otherwise light, and hotel space is least available on Friday and Saturday nights.

The next time I plan a long trip like cross country, I will add a few days to my schedule, and get off the interstate highways and travel some back roads.

Above all, ride safe, and keep your bike shiny side up!



Greg Peary and his 2002 Honda VTX-C. Courtesy photo

# 50 years with Services – end of an era

**By Lori Peppers**  
**45th Services Squadron**

After more than half a century of service to Air Force Services, Luis Saez took off his nametag for the last time when he retired as fitness director at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., recently.

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, he entered the U.S. Army where he served in the Korean War with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division.

He left the Army to attend Puerto Rico's A&M College, then rejoined the military, beginning what would become a 24-year career in the U.S. Air Force – and a 53-year love affair with Services.

Thus began a progression of military stints, both overseas and domestic, that would be inextricably woven in Special Services – a division which would eventually transition to Personal Services, then convert to what was known for years as Morale, Welfare and Recreation, and finally to Services, as it is

known in today's Air Force.

Arriving at the Patrick AFB 45<sup>th</sup> Space Wing in 1983, he was barely prepared for what he would face.

"When I came to Patrick – I'm not sure how to describe it – it was the pits," he said. "We had 80 ugly rusted out lockers for the men, complemented with homemade rustic benches fashioned from 2x4s."

It wasn't until the mid-80s that aerobic and cardio programs, and fitness as we know it today, became vogue. Prior to that, the focus was on sports.

"There was just no market then for fitness," he said, "so, as a whole, we typically received the leftovers."

Retired Col. Willie Gray served as vice commander of the 45<sup>th</sup> Space Wing. The two arrived the same year and worked together throughout Colonel Gray's seven years at Patrick.

"I have fond memories of working with Luis



**Luis Saez, the force behind Patrick Air Force Base, Fla.'s state-of-the-art fitness center for 22 years, could always be seen at the finish line. Photo by Jim Laviska**

during my tenure," Colonel Gray said. "He was always our biggest supporter of the intramural sports program and was instrumental in the development and expansion of the Sports & Fitness Center."

Today the Patrick Fitness Center and the Cape Canaveral Fitness Annex are considered among the finest facilities in the military, garnering numerous staff and equipment command-level awards. Under his direction, Patrick has been host to nearly 20 Air Force training camps and armed forces competitions.

Tony Boob, 45<sup>th</sup> Services Outdoor

Recreation manager and a friend for 23 years, said, "Luis leaves behind a legacy that sets the standard for others to follow for years to come."

In 1991, Mr. Saez was honored as the Air Force Fitness Director of the Year. In 2003-2004, the Patrick Fitness Center earned the Five-Star Excellence Award, and the Fitness program named the 2004 Activity of the Year.

Another longtime friend, Deputy Base Civil Engineer Jack Gibson remembers how Mr. Saez could be found in the golf course club-house on Friday after work. "Unofficially, he sort of 'held

court' in a way," Mr. Gibson said. "He took a gym with no air conditioning and minimal equipment, and converted it, in my opinion, to one of the best in the Air Force."

Luis Saez has been a part of the landscape of Patrick Air Force Base and the surrounding Satellite Beach community since his arrival in 1983.

"Services has been my life," the 72-year old said. "To leave Services makes me very sad."

"My goal is to come back and use the fitness facility ... and call the (Commander's) Action Line."



# Ramstein Community Center director grabs 'rings of excellence'

**By Staff Sgt. Brian Hill**  
435th Air Base Wing  
Public Affairs

The Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Community Center has racked up the awards over the years, and now director Linda Crom can say she's finally collected her five golden rings.

She was recently selected as the 2005 Air Force Services Squadron Civilian Manager of the Year.

"It is a great honor," said the 27-year Services veteran. "It's a sense of personal achievement and pride in knowing you are the best of the best in Air Force Services world-wide."

And the five golden rings?

Ramstein's Community Center has been a fixture at Air Force-level competition lately – recent awards include Best Community Center in the Air Force, 1998, 2003 and 2004; and 435th Services

Squadron Team of the Year, 2004 – and now with this latest achievement, Ms. Crom can count five top awards she's been a part of.

"I have realized every manager's dream, and some personal goals I set for myself," she added, meaning this latest manager award.

Ms. Crom's story began in Lima, Ohio, but she's called Germany home for the past 30 years.

"Another dream come true: living in Europe," she said.

She started at the community center in 1988, and has assumed the director's seat in 1998.

"I always joke, 'It's one of the few jobs that pays you to play' with providing fun filled, morale building events and programs for the community," she said.

In leading the center to five awards, Ms. Crom said her leadership philosophies stem

from some early mentoring.

"I was very fortunate to have had two awesome mentors," she said. "Carol Sudy and Dale Schmitzer in the Recreation and Management field – I learned a lot from them and manage in their style."

"I like leading by example and stress team work. The community center has a small but awesome team which makes it easy to come up with unique, successful programs."

"I also follow the Disney philosophy, taught to me by my mentors, of exceeding people's expectations and leaving them with lasting impressions."

"The success of the community center is listening to our patrons, satisfying their needs and giving them what they want in the way of programs and services."

The center's mission is boosting morale for commu-



**Ramstein Air Base's Linda Crom, director of the Community Center, is the 2005 Air Force Services Squadron Civilian Manager of the Year. This is the fifth top honor she has earned in the Services career field. Courtesy photo.**

nity center members and their families.

The award-winning team at the community center believe they accom-

plish their mission in 2005.

"We strive to live up to our motto, 'the center of fun,'" said Ms. Crom.



## Names, faces in the news

### Hickam names award winners

Civilian of the Quarter  
Category I  
**Natalie Keaney**  
15th Services Squadron  
Ms. Keaney coordinated the 30th Annual Spring Craft Fair from start to finish with more than 1,000 people in attendance. She also oversaw 180 Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, children at the summer kids craft camp.

Civilian of the Quarter  
Category II  
**Charlotte Lewis**  
15th Services Squadron  
Ms. Lewis maintained school-age program fees at the bottom of the Department of Defense scales. As a result, the fees have not increased since 2001. She also instituted new pre-teen community service programs to spruce up base walking and bike paths as well as local beaches.

### Osan Top Volunteer

**Chandra Mentch**  
Osan Air Base, Korea's weekly top volunteer assisted approximately 1,200 Osan newcomers from April to June. She's a regular volunteer at the Family Support Center volunteering up to five days a week of her time.



Mentch

### Four reenlist at Peterson

Congratulations to the following Air Force reenlistees from the 21st Services Squadron at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

**Master Sgt. Stanley Pamphille, Tech. Sgts. Anedra Conlan and Eric Mattison and Senior Airman Frederick Guild**

### Columbus announces second-quarter winners

The Second Quarter Category II Civilian for 2005 at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., is **Rose Lime**, 14<sup>th</sup> Services Division.

Ms. Lime effectively managed the youth center budget to fund more than 400 hours of training for 15 staff members. She also initiated, marketed and carried out 23 new programs supporting youth of all ages. Ms. Lime recruited 18 volunteers to support the Freedom Park beautification project. She has also received instructor certification from the National Alliance for the Development of Archery.

### Hello baby!

Congratulations to the parents of Team Mildenhall's recent addition.

**Brooklyn Nicole** was born to Staff Sgts. **Jessica and Sergio Lara**, 100th Services Squadron and 48th Mission Support Squadron. Brooklyn weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces.



Lime

### Randolph quarterly award winners announced

**Staff Sgt. Guillermo Salazarcuriel**, Air Force Services Agency, was named the NCO of the Quarter for the time and resources his actions directly saved the Air Force.



Salazarcuriel

A payroll technician with the Air Force Services Agency won the Intermediate Civilian of the Quarter award.

**Jennifer Pratt** is responsible for ensuring 5,500 non-appropriated fund employees receive their pay and appropriate benefits.



Pratt

### Holloman salutes

The following master sergeant selects from the 49th Services Squadron were inducted into the Team Holloman Top 3 Association recently:

**Kimberly Hatch  
Marty Haynes  
Shawn McMillan**

### NCO Academy grad

**Tech. Sgt. Will Hightower**, 99th Services Squadron, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., graduated recently from the Nellis NCO Academy.

## Among the Air Force's best

# Services senior NCO earns high praise

**By Senior Airman Joe Lacdan**  
**Whiteman Air Force**  
**Base, Mo., Public**  
**Affairs**

Her encounter with death left Senior Airman Karissa Smith speechless. She sat in stoic silence,



**Senior Master Sgt. Donald Carney, 509th Services Squadron, is the Air Force's Services Senior NCO of the year. Photo by Senior Airman Joe Lacdan**

staring at the coarse desert ground beneath her.

"Are you all right?" said Senior Master Sgt. Donald Carney, the deployed services superintendent.

He'd noticed the normally outgoing Airman Smith had become silent.

"Yes, sir," Airman Smith said.

But Sergeant Carney knew something was troubling the 21-year old Airman.

Airman Smith had recently joined a mortuary affairs team while deployed to Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq. The group gathered bodies of fallen U.S. troops and prepared them for proper repatriation back to their loved ones in the United States.

Airman Smith, the only Airman in the NCO-dominated group, was trying to cope with her first experience preparing the bodies.

Sergeant Carney dealt with the same trauma, as a young Airman 17 years ago. As he sat next

to Airman Smith, Sergeant Carney told her about his experiences on the mortuary team. In a few minutes Airman Smith was back on her feet.

"He helped a lot of us younger Airmen get through that deployment," Airman Smith said. "He's very approachable. I feel like if I ever have a problem I can go to him."

Sergeant Carney has grown accustomed to helping Airmen. The 20-year Air Force veteran has made it a priority throughout his career, just as his mentors — retired Chief Master Sgts. Larry Hornback and Jim Halvorson taught him.

It's that philosophy that helped Sergeant Carney earn the Air Force Services Senior NCO of the Year honors.

"He does everything beyond the normal scope of what a superintendent does," said Master Sgt.

Mark Hamrick, 509th Services Squadron food services superintendent.

In addition to making periodic visits to the Ozark Inn, the fitness center and the Whiteman Inn, he established an "open door" policy. Any Airman in his squadron can approach him for advice or counsel, he said.

Sergeant Carney has earned numerous commendation medals for his service in places like Bosnia, Hungary, Croatia and Iraq.

He has also earned honors at the squadron, group and command level. But he said the real value of his work doesn't lie in those honors. It lies in those he's worked with.

"Being surrounded by good people is what drives you to do great things," he said.

He also helps Services Airmen realize the importance of preparing a

meal, providing a comfortable lodging room or maintaining accessible fitness equipment.

"I try to re-enforce and get them to understand that prior to any sortie generation, people have to eat, they need to work out and they need to have their families taken care of," Sergeant Carney said.

Sergeant Carney said he makes sure he meets each new Services Airman. He also lets them know how their job affects the rest of the 509th.

He also gives Airmen a first-hand view of B-2 operations by helping coordinate tours.

Today his door remains open for fellow squadron members, for Airmen unsure of what direction their career is going or even Airmen dealing with personal turmoil. Problems like coping with the shock that mortuary causes in a combat zone.

# Peterson Services crew promotes fun

**By Tech. Sgt. Matt Gilreath**  
Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., Public Affairs

Members of the 21st Services Squadron Marketing Office work hard to inform troops of available activities seven days a week. Margie Arnold, 21st SVS Marketing Office writer, said she has been writing promotional material for the last 11 years.

"I've written for the Colorado Springs Business Journal, the Colorado Springs Independent, the Better Business Bureau and for Springs Magazine, where I also work part-time and am on their editorial staff,"

Mrs. Arnold said. "All those articles I wrote were marketing one thing or another: businesses in town, theatrical productions and even things such as homebuilding trends in Colorado Springs." She's been working in the 21st Services Marketing Office for seven years.

Along with the writing, good graphics and art work are essential to effective marketing. Jon Brown, 21st SVS marketing office publicity specialist said he has been doing graphic design most of his life.

"I started in Denver, trimming windows for a major drugstore chain and a department store," Mr.

Brown said. "Later, marquees for theaters. The 20-year break in the military kept me going, but usually on my own time by creating charts and drafting. Since retirement, I've been involved in many ventures, all of which involved marketing and publicity to some extent — including a degree in marketing, another in broadcasting and a third in business management."



**Jon Brown, 21st Services Marketing Office publicity specialist and Margie Arnold, 21st SVS Marketing Office writer, work together to come up with ideas to attract customers for upcoming events. The marketing office works to promote events two months in advance. Photo By Tech. Sgt. Matt Gilreath**

"I've been at Peterson since 1991 and I've seen many changes in the way we market what we do and how we do it," Mr. Brown said.

Mister Brown said the best part of his job was having the autonomy to be creative.

"I enjoy the creative part of my job and seeing the final product match my imagination," Mr. Brown said. "It's also nice to see the expressions on a facility manager's face when they tell me a particular function was a big hit because of the publicity I created for them."

Julia Lonsford, 21st SVS Enlisted Club food operations manager, said the marketing office was the club's key to success.

"The Marketing office gets the word out," said Mrs. Lonsford. "They get people into the club with

their advertising and then it's up to us to take it from there. They keep club members informed by mailing them flyers and coupons about every day specials.

The enlisted club food operations manager said they coordinate with the marketing office up to two months in advance to get the word out to the troops about upcoming events.

"Without the marketing office, people don't know what we have to offer and what we do," Mrs.

Lonsford said. "If it wasn't for the marketing office and all the posters and flyers they make, we'd be doomed."

# FITNESS & SPORTS

## Air Force Marathon draws runners, base community

**By Brett Turner**  
Wright-Patterson Air  
Force Base, Ohio,  
Public Affairs

Some 3,454 runners from all 50 U.S. states and seven countries participated in the ninth annual U. S. Air Force Marathon held at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Sept. 17.

The full 26.2-mile race began the day at 7:35 a.m., followed by the four-person team relay race then the 13.1-mile half marathon race. A 5K (3.1-mile) race was held later in the day. The race started under gray, overcast skies — perfect weather according to many runners.

Participants were aided by nearly 1,800 volunteers and aid stations at every mile along the marathon route and at the finish-line area.

Hendrik Vanloon of the Belgian Air Force won the race with a time of two

hours 41 minutes 15.9 seconds. He became the second man to claim two overall marathon wins here. He won the race in 2003.

Lt. Col. Mike Michno from Wright-Patterson took second place overall and was the men's military winner in 2:45:33.25.

Capt. Kori Delwiche, of McGuire AFB, N.J., won the women's race in 3:02:22.75.

Second Lt. William Bohlke, of St. Croix, Virgin Islands and a member of the Air National Guard team, took the half marathon race in 1:11:47.15. Senior Airman Rebecca Oldenhouse, of Robins AFB, Ga., won the women's half marathon in 1:30:15.45.

The National Guard Stars and Stripes relay team won its race in 2:31:05.6. Airman 1st Class Brett Still of Shaw AFB, S.C., won the overall 5K race in 15:34.31,

and Kelly Donahue, of Fairborn, took the women's division in 20:45.51.

No matter what level of skill, the runners found cheering throngs at many points along the route. The runners' chute, near the National Museum of the U. S. Air Force to the finish line, was lined with spectators at the sidelines cheering the finishers home.

They then received what some consider the best

award anybody can receive at such a race — a medallion for their particular race, awarded by a base official or one of the sponsors.

The first Air Force Marathon was held in 1997 in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Air Force. The 10th annual U. S. Air Force Marathon will be Sept. 16, 2006.

Full race results are available at <http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil/>



Runners charge across the starting line during the ninth annual U.S. Air Force Marathon on Sept. 17. The 1,390 participants traversed a grueling 26.2 miles in and around the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, area. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Tracy DeMarco



# Five from Agency finish AF Marathon

**By Steve VanWert**  
Air Force Services  
Agency

Five runners from the Air Force Services Agency, including the Agency commander, entered and finished all 26.2 miles of the recent Air Force Marathon, held at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, joining some 3,454 runners from all 50 U.S. states and seven countries.

Col. Timothy Hanson, Agency commander; Jeff Richard and Master Sgts. Wallace Wakefield, Kevin Norton and Tim Wodtke crossed the finish line successfully, each fulfilling a personal goal and answering a personal challenge. Joining the fivesome was Col. Jim Lewis, individual mobility augmentee to Art Myers, Services director.

"My goal was to finish in less than 4 hours," said the colonel, whose actual time was 3:59.26. "More important was to be a part of a group of guys, and have us all finish. It

just goes to show you what you can do when you set your sights on accomplishing something you previously thought unattainable."

Sergeant Wakefield, Information Technology strategic planning manager at AFSVA, agreed. "The goal was to finish and establish a baseline for future marathons. In addition, it was one of those items on the big checklist of life."

Sergeant Norton, Air Force lodging manager, finished in a little more than 5 and a half hours, but had some blister problems that slowed him down. "I finished and that was my real goal," he said.

Sergeant Wodtke, logistics program manager, said, "Since this was my first marathon, completing it was my main goal."

Mr. Richard, lodging specialist, had a goal to run at a 10-minute pace, which would have put him across the finish line at 4 hours and 20 minutes. He

was on track until he hit mile 20. "The last 6 miles were brutal with all the hills," he said. "Your legs do funny things after running 20 miles and trying to run uphill. But I was pleased with my time since this was my first marathon." Even with tiring legs, he missed his goal by only 15 minutes and 5 seconds.

None of the Agency runners are experienced marathoners. Most have run in shorter distances, but it was the first marathon for all. Sergeants Wakefield, Norton and Wodtke all ran a half-marathon in June and the Army 10-miler in August. Mr. Richard has run in numerous local short distance events in the past several years and finished fourth in a local Half-Marathon this year. Sergeant Wakefield has been a distance runner for years, but never put any significant time into training.

The decision for the group to run together came during a joint

temporary duty assignment in New York City last year. It was Sergeant Norton who was the catalyst.

"Sergeant Norton, who was an avid cyclist, but not a real runner, suggested we all come back and run in the New York Marathon," said Colonel Hanson. "I offered the alternative of doing the Air Force Marathon in September and we all said, 'Let's do it.' We couldn't back down after that!"

The group began training together in May. They ran training runs starting at 5:30 a.m. or earlier so they could be finished before the sun got too hot at 8:30 a.m. "By then, we'd accomplished more than most people do all weekend long. It's a great way to start the day, a great way to challenge yourself," said the colonel.

"I'm the type of person who always has to challenge myself, whether at work or off-duty," said Mr. Richard. "In 2003, I set five



**Col. Timothy Hanson, Air Force Services Agency commander, crosses the finish line at the Air Force Marathon. Courtesy photo**

personal challenges; cycle across Iowa, do a 100-mile one-day cycle ride, do a dualthon (run, cycle, run event), a marathon and a triathlon. I've accomplished the first four events and plan to do my first triathlon next year."

Sergeant Wakefield feels that finishing the Air Force Marathon has "indeed set the pace for the rest of my life."

**Continued on page 58**

# Junior Golf comes to Eagle Creek

Children from Dover Air Force Base, Del., look around before hitting the water balloon as they practice their swings during this year's Junior Golf Program. Photo by Lisa Nonnenmacher



**By April Crampton**  
436<sup>th</sup> Services  
Squadron

Eagle Creek Golf Course at Dover Air Force Base, Del., recently finished its annual Junior Golf Program for children ages 6 to 16, where children discovered the fun and fundamentals of golf.

The golf course staff and volunteers collaborated with

the Ladies Professional Golf Association Urban Golf League program staff to provide 50 to 75 Dover AFB youth the chance to develop an interest in golf through this program. The children met every Wednesday for six weeks from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Eagle Creek.

"We separated the children into groups based on

age and ability level," said Fran Estabrook, Eagle Creek Golf Course manager.

All junior golfers in this curriculum received equipment to use during the program while learning etiquette and rules of the game as they actually played on Eagle Creek's course.

"Junior Golf provides the partici-

pants more than just an introduction to the game of golf," said Ms. Estabrook. "Specific techniques such as pitching, putting, driving and how to use wood and iron clubs are taught."

"During each level we teach and encourage the concepts of safe, fast and courteous play," said Judy Stout, LPGA Urban Golf Program

director. "We hope that each child takes the respect they demonstrate on the golf course and continue it in their everyday life."

"We are seeing an increase in the number of younger girls participating in this program," said Ms. Estabrook. "It shows more girls and women are learning how great golf really is."

## Five from Agency complete AF marathon

*continued from page 57*

Sergeant Wodtke had a different reason to begin running. "I started running on a regular basis last year to increase my overall physical training score," he said. "It was then that I realized how much I enjoyed running, as

my fitness level and distances increased."

For the first time, the Air Force Marathon is an official Air Force Event. The marathon, first held in 1997 to coincide with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the

Air Force, now falls under the auspices of the Air Force Services Agency.

"The Agency helped Wright-Patterson prepare and execute this race," said Colonel Hanson. "We provided financial support, marketing help, and our sports folks helped with

organization. The Services folks at Wright-Patterson did a fantastic job of organizing the marathon. From the gourmet pasta dinner the night before to the well-organized start to the volunteers on the course, it was all first class. It was a great team effort."

Nearly 1,800 volunteers manned aid stations at every mile along the marathon route and at the finish line.

Along with the 26.2-mile marathon, there was also a 13.1-mile half marathon, a 5K race (3.1 miles) and a four-member marathon relay team event.

# Grass gets greener on Tyndall golf course

**By Lt. Col. Marc Picollo**  
**325th Services Squadron commander**

Tyndall's Pelican Point Golf Course management team recently announced plans to improve course operations.

According to manger John Winebar, plans include projects that will improve the golfing experience for both the near and far term and ensure Pelican Point remains one of the Air Force's best golf courses for years to come. To begin, management recently invested heavily in course maintenance equipment such as new mowers and other specialized turf maintenance equipment.

"We want to provide a consistent playing surface for our golfers and the new equipment will help us to do that," said Mr. Winebar.

Course management also plans to replace many of their golf carts within the next few months and establish a golf advisory council to gather feedback from customers. Mr. Winebar said he expects the advisory council to be an important part of the future of Pelican Point.

"We are here to provide a recreational opportunity for Team Tyndall, and the advisory council will give us a direct avenue to hearing what's on their minds," he said.

But some of the biggest changes are still years away, he added. Mr. Winebar and his team recently helped complete a package that went to Headquarters Air Education and Training Command Services to request funding to completely rebuild the greens and add additional features to the course. This will benefit all golfers and improve the playability of the course for the



**Priscilla Wilson mows the green of Pelican Point Golf Course's 18th hole during a recent early morning cutting. The course upgraded its maintenance schedule recently, which resulted in a 25 percent increase in course maintenance and repair. Photo by Steve Riddle**

enjoyment of the Team Tyndall golfing community.

While enthusiastic about the prospects for the future of the course, Mr. Winebar is quick to point out the need to increase the daily maintenance of the course right now.

"Over the years we've seen our payroll costs, fertilizer costs, fuel costs and other expenses continue to rise with only minor adjustments to what we charge the customers," he said. "All of that equated to a reduction in the level of daily maintenance the course receives. We now need to pass some of our increased costs to the customer to allow us to put more into the course."

Mr. Winebar added, though, the new rate and fee structure for the

golf course will allow more choices and flexibility for customers. In fact, golfers will be offered several package deals tailored to their expected level of play, and all packages will offer a discount over the daily rate with golfers that play more frequently receiving the best rates.

The new rates and fees took effect July 15. Members of either the Tyndall Enlisted or Officers' Club will still receive a five percent discount off published rates.

"While increasing fees is never a popular action, in this case it is necessary in order to keep pace with rising operating costs and to improve the course," Mr. Winebar said. "Even with rates rising, golf at Pelican Point is still one of the best deals you'll find."

# Team Services wins Casey Invitational Softball tournament

**By Staff Sgt. William Daniels**  
82nd Training Wing

Team Services went undefeated to win the recent Breydon Casey Invitational Softball Tournament at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

The tournament's proceeds went to Staff Sgt. Donald Casey, intramural sports director, and his family. Sergeant Casey's wife, Donna, gave birth prematurely to a healthy baby, but the sergeant and his family will have to stay in Dallas for the next three months. The proceeds from

the tournament will help offset transportation, lodging and food costs that the family will incur.

Ten teams, ranging from Security Forces to the Lady Senators, participated in the event. The tournament was played under a "one-pitch" format, where each batter got only one pitch per at bat. It turned out to be a good rule, as teams that had never played together hung tough with the more established ones.

Teams were split into an A and a B division. They were guaranteed four games, with every-

one making the single-elimination playoffs.

Team Services, coached by Landon Miller, was a dazzling 7-0 during the tournament. Because of their lackluster intramural record -- 3 wins and 9 losses -- Team Services came into the tournament as an underdog. But the squad had something the other teams didn't have: playing to win for a comrade and his family. Some said it was heart, some said it was luck, but team members pointed to Sergeant Casey and Donna, who attended the games, as the

inspiration that gave them the need, drive and passion to win.

Team Services started the tourney with a bang, beating the 360th Aircraft Maintenance Officer Course team, 22-2, behind Darrin Mackjust's solid pitching.

The next day, Team Services played Airmen-in-Training from the 362nd Training Squadron, and got a run for its money. Trailing in a close game, Team Services blew it open with a huge inning that gave them a commanding lead. An outfield that consisted of

Richard Hall, J.R. Neff, Beth Clement and Jeremy Brown caught anything hit in the air. Team Services prevailed with a 24-6 victory.

After a three-game break, Team Services went back at it. This time, the bats stayed hot throughout the game and the defense played flawlessly in a 19-5 win over the 363rd Training Squadron's Airmen-in-Training team.

With that victory, Team Services moved into the driver's seat, sitting as the first seed in the B division.

**Continued on next page**



Team Services members pose for a photo after winning the Breydon Casey Invitational Softball Tournament. Team Services went undefeated to win the tournament. The tournament's purpose was to raise money for the Case family. Staff Sgt. Donald Casey's wife, Donna, gave birth prematurely and the family has to stay in Dallas for the next three months. The process will help offset costs. Courtesy photo



## Team Services goes undefeated, *continued from page 60*

The only thing standing in its way was the lone ladies team in the tournament, The Lady Senators.

When the game started, the Lady Senators practiced something that is very hard to do in a one-pitch tournament -- patience. Their methodical approach at the plate led to a six-run first inning. Meanwhile, Team Services came out flat, mustering just two runs in their half of the first inning.

After falling behind 10-2, Team Services woke up from hibernation by scoring nine runs in

two innings to tie the game. A clutch, two-out, run-scoring single by Jeremy Brown helped Team Services win the game, 12-11, and secure the first seed in the tournament.

After a five-hour wait before starting their next game, Team Services finally took the field again. The lengthy wait between games showed in their play.

Uncharacteristically poor defense set the tone for a game that should have been "no contest," turning it instead into another nail biter. Team Services dug deep,

though, and found a way to gut out the victory.

Next up for Team Services was the 382nd Training Squadron. Coming off a close game, Team Services turned two 1-6-3 double-plays and came up with some clutch hitting. An invitation to the championship game came with a hard-fought 8-5 victory.

The championship game was a great one. Richard Hall, J.R. Neff and Will Daniels all went yard in the game.

But once again, defense was the name of the game for Team Services;

as the saying goes, defense wins championships.

Brian Eskew turned in a memorable play that would eventually be the game turner. In the 5th inning, with runners on second and third, Eskew snagged a line drive up the middle, slid into second base for the second out, and then threw home to Beth Clements for the tag at the plate.

Only once in a lifetime do you see a triple play in softball.

After that, the game played right into Team Services' hands, ending as a 10-5 victory for

them. With the win, Team Services brought home the championship trophy for Sergeant Casey and his family.

The Tournament Offensive MVP was awarded to J.R. Neff, who batted an unbelievable .875 for the tourney; .900 in the elimination games.

Tournament Defensive MVP turned out to be none other than "Mr. Triple Play" himself, Brian Eskew.

Team Services brought home the Breydon Casey Invitational Softball Tournament trophy for their beloved comrade in an unforgettable way. Not only did they bring home the trophy, but the Services Division also gave all of the proceeds from the tournament to Sergeant Casey and his family.

Everyone had a great time playing, and friendships were forever planted in the hearts and minds of all involved.



### ***From 'outta school' to 'old skool' at skateboard camp***

Mikkjel Dolferus, one of two instructors at the Premise Skate Camp Experience held recently at the Royal Air Force Mildenhall skateboarding park, "ollies" over six skateboards stacked up and held by two students. Twenty-seven children, age 10 to 15, attended the youth center's skateboarding camp. Photo by Karen Abbey Asekere

## *War-winning capabilities ... on time, on cost, at Wright-Patterson*

# Airmen get in shape with boot camp aerobics

**By Brett Turner**  
Wright-Patterson Air  
Force Base, Ohio,  
Public Affairs

Boot camp aerobics can be a pain when participants are doing it, but it could one day save their life. The boot camp aerobics class, which has been offered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, for about five years, adds a new emphasis to workouts, incorporating scenarios Airmen could face while deployed.

While the main idea is still to get participants in good shape, these workouts do more. The class uses several exercises to test endurance and resistance, similar to what Airmen would experience at boot camp.

Since implementing a mandatory fitness program in 2003, many units here lined up to take the class. Kirk Links, Wright-Patterson fitness director and the boot camp

instructor, recently decided the class could do more.

The 40-minute class, held at the Wright-Patterson Wright Field Fitness Center, begins with participants putting on 14-pound flak vests, similar to what they would wear if deployed. The class starts with a 10-minute warm-up, which includes push-ups, jumping jacks and aerobic stepping. This is followed by elbow and knee strikes with pads.

In a recent class, Mr. Links led the 18 participants outside for more in-depth exercises.

The first exercise was a sprint with two Airmen carrying a litter filled with sand bags about 100 yards to simulate carrying an injured comrade to a helicopter.

The next was carrying 90- to 120-pound pipes the same distance. Mr. Links encouraged those not doing their sets to stay active between sets,

working out with 18- to 24-pound rods. The rods simulate rifles and weigh about twice as much as an M-16 rifle.

While easily the smallest and lightest attendee of the session, Staff Sgt. Deveney Drown, a paralegal at the base legal office, did not shy from jumping right into the exercises.

"As long as you try, it gets easier," she said. "(Mr. Links) has made it harder, but more interesting. He's trying to protect us. It's made me a lot stronger and will most likely help me out."

The final outdoor exercise was running about a third of a mile with the rods. He said this was one of the newest additions and was designed to have the class move as a unit.

In one case, a couple of people stayed back with a classmate who was slowed down because of injury or fatigue, which Mr.

Links said he was glad to see.

"One of the big keys I'm trying to get (across to them) is to think as a unit so they move together," he said. "If one person gets tired, another jumps in to help out. They may have a mission to get that litter or those poles to or from a place to get the mission done."

The class ended with some stretching, followed by the class putting its own equipment away. Like real boot camp, no shortcuts are allowed.

Capt. Frank Gonzalez, of the

88th Air Base Wing command staff, was physically drained by the end of the class but said he was glad to have it.

"People forget we're an Air Force at war, and the days of sitting around playing basketball are over," he said. "The enemy isn't going to play basketball with us; he's going to come running at us, lobbing mortars and shooting. We need to be able to shoot back, run back and take our injured comrades with us. This is important stuff."



**Chief Master Sgt. Clint Allen, front, and Airman 1st Class Shawn Bishop carry a litter loaded with sandbags during a boot camp aerobics class at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The exercise helps Airmen get physically fit while doing tasks they may face during a deployment. Photo by Spencer Lane**



## Certified personal training course at Travis Fitness Center

Mr. Joe Alimorong, certified personal trainer, assists Senior Airman Kristen Shelton, 60th Operations Support Squadron, Air Traffic Control, on the cable row exercise at the Fitness Center.

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**Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Matt McGovern**  
Travis Air Force Base, Calif., Public Affairs

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The Travis Air Force Base, Calif., Fitness Center recently offered a Coopers Personal Trainer Certification course.

The five-day course nationally certifies the individual to work one-on-one to assist with exercise prescriptions, physical test requirements [military], and a variety of other health related subjects, including: strength and flexibility training, anatomy and kinesiology,

fitness assessment, cardiovascular training, nutrition, motivation, exercise physiology, goal setting, exercise guidelines, body composition, exercise and safety, medical screening, coronary risk factors, and overall fitness and wellness.

"The terminology and correct body positioning I learned from the class really helps me with my clients," said Mr. Joe Alimorong, Fitness Center certified personal trainer.

To work at the Fitness Center as a paid personnel trainer, a 100 hour internship must be completed.

"During this time your checking body fat levels and other basic

programs that get you ready to train others," said Mr. Alimorong.

The class allows for student-teacher interaction using current scientific research to instruct students on effectively improving the fitness levels of others.

"What I find rewarding about my job is seeing the results in clients. A reduction of body fat or increased muscle weight has an effect on their attitude as well," said Mr. Alimorong.

"Anyone who has an interest in helping others and enjoys seeing a change for the better, this is the class," he added.

### One-on-one

Johnny Vasquez, right, teaches John Keenan to bring the basketball up the court during the recent RAF Mildenhall Youth Center Basketball Camp. The camp is known as "Operation Hoops." Photo by Kevin Wehr





# Cardboard racers battle at Build A Boat Race

Members of the 82nd Civil Engineer Squadron build their boat. Photo by Mike Litteken

By Ray Talbott  
82nd Services Division

Team spirit and esprit de corps were evident recently at the Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, main pool as 25 teams were locked in battle during Sheppard's 5th Annual Build A Boat Race.

With about 500 spectators cheering them on, teams worked and played hard with designing, building and racing their boats in the main pool. Teams were required to complete their boats in one and a half hours using only five 4-foot by 8-foot pieces of cardboard, two rolls of duct tape and magic markers.

Teams used special decorations to complete their boat's theme.

This year's overall winner was the Navy Detachment and second place went to the 362nd Training Squadron Team II.

Judges were Brig. Gen. James Whitmore, 82nd Training Wing commander and Col. Steven McKay, 82nd Mission Support Group commander.

Special thanks to Pruitt Ford and to Spring House Water for their sponsorships, helping to make this

an even bigger and better event than last year.

Boat race winners were:

Overall Winner: NAVY Boat Name: USS Soggy Bottom Team captain: CDR Jacob

Overall Runner Up: 362nd Training Squadron Team II Boat Name: Jenny Team captain: Amn Smith

Submarine Trophy: 383rd Training Squadron "A" Boat Name: Sidewinder Team captain: Mark Thomas

Torpedo Trophy: 361st Training Squadron Fastest time: 44 Sec. Team captain: Master Sgt. Jonathon Redfern

Sharkproof Trophy or most Creative: AFOTC Team 2 Boat Name: Bravo's Blackbird Team captain: Bryan Ralston

Biggest Mouth Trophy: 360th



Master Sgt. Jonathon Redfern races his ship. The 361st Training Squadron had the fastest time with a 44 second finish. Photo by Mike Litteken



# AF wrestlers take two medals at nationals

**By Staff Sgt. Cia Newman**  
**Air Warfare Center**  
**Public Affairs**

Air Force wrestlers left the U.S. National Wrestling Championships with a silver and bronze medal and qualified five wrestlers to attend the World Team Trials.

"We came into this competition understanding we are rebuilding our team," said Richard Estrella, Air Force wrestling coach. "So we are not disappointed in leaving with two medals and three top-seven placers."

Greco-Roman wrestler Jacob Hey took the silver in the 132-pound division, and Philip Johnston won a bronze in the 211.5-pound division. The team also walked away from the two-day competition with the second place award for the Greco-Roman National Team Championship title.

Winning the silver medal, Hey defeated Duaine Martin, U.S. Army Wrestling Team, in the

semifinals 0-1, 1-0, 1-0, but was not able to duplicate his win in the final match against New York Athletic Club wrestler Joe Warren.

Warren entered the second period of the final up 2-0 against Hey. Hey attempted to gain 3 points by performing a throw while having Warren in a front headlock, but Warren took advantage of Hey's position, pushing him out of bounds and gained another 3 points to end the second and final round 5-0.

Emotions were high for the Air Force wrestler, who said Warren was his most difficult match of the competition.

"Warren is one of the best, and he's beat me at least three other times," Hey said. "But I've also beat him in the past, so I went into this knowing I could win."

Hey and Johnston were also the 2005 Armed Forces Championship winners. Johnston, moving up four positions from 2004,



**Lorenzo Peterson (right), a 211.2-pound division Greco-Roman wrestler, grapples with his opponent, R.C. Johnson of the New York Athletic Club, during a match at the 2005 U.S. Nationals Wrestling tournament. The Air Force team won first runner-up in the team standings for the tournament. Photo by Master Sgt. Robert Valenca**

took home the bronze medal after beating J.D. Bergman, of the Ohio International Wrestling Corporation, by a technical call 5-0, 8-0 for the third-place finish.

"I have no regrets," Johnston said. "My goal was to be No. 1, but ultimately it's to wrestle as well as I can, and I did that during this competition."

Also earning berths in the World Team Trials was Anthony Brooker, who finished fourth in the 121-pound division; Justin Millard, who finished seventh at 185 pounds; and Laura

McDonald, a 147-pound women's freestyle wrestler who also placed in the Open Nationals and earned a berth to the trials.

"This was the first time we've had female wrestlers represent the Air Force," Mr. Estrella said. "They are the 'pioneers leading the way.' Having the women training alongside the men during the entire camp helped make us a better team."

"It's an awesome feeling to be one of the first to lay the foundation for other female Airmen wrestlers," said Bethany Murphy, a 130-pound division

women's freestyle wrestler. "Although my goal was to leave with a medal, I already have a sense of accomplishment just getting this far and being chosen to represent the Air Force."

"The realization is that our wrestlers are Airmen first and are still held responsible to perform their regular duties and prepare for their competitions. But if I could spend just a little more time with them and we get a little more experience, it would be scary to see how good we could possibly be," Mr. Estrella said.

## *Who can show the most physical fitness improvement?*

# Team Lackland fitness specialists face off

**Story and photo by Ray Whelan**  
Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, Public Affairs

Several fitness specialists from the 37th Services Division and the Health and Wellness Center from the 59th Aerospace Medical Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, have begun to challenge each other for a free massage and a six-month supply of Propel Fitness Water.

That is the top prize for the one specialist who can show the most personal physical fitness improvement through the end of a three-month program.

"For our staff, this is a fun competition to get them working toward their fitness goals so they are better equipped to educate others on improving fitness," said Heather Estey from 37<sup>th</sup> Services.

Estey, Jermaine Johnson, Steve Reichert and Stephanie Porter are the Services competitors.

Martha Davila, Robert "Rocky" Groves, Justin Gonzales and Nina Perino are the HAWC participants.

"But it's open to anyone and everyone," Ms. Estey said. "The program is just added incentive for some of our staff members who should live the life of a fitness professional."



**37th Services Division fitness specialist Heather Estey assesses Lackland Varsity Sports Director Steve Reichert as part of a friendly three-month-long "competition" among several fitness specialists from Services and the 59th Medical Wing. Others are invited to participate.**

Others who join the competition will undergo an initial physical fitness assessment at the HAWC to measure blood pressure, body fat, heart rate, weight and other factors, Ms. Estey added.

Then, each entrant can determine his or her fitness activity, including cardiovascular exercise and resistance training. Every person in the event must work out

at least three times a week until the program ends.

"The goal is to begin or continue a consistent workout regime and improve total wellness rather than just speed or strength," Ms. Estey said. "For some individuals that means losing some weight, for others it means gaining some muscle, for others it may just mean increasing flexibility."

## *Are your workouts dull? Need renewed motivation? Attending a new fitness center class made this* **Buckley Airman motivated to spin**



Wellman

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**By 1st Lt. Caroline Wellman**  
**Buckley Air Force Base, Colo., Public Affairs**

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There are a few things in life I am truly passionate about: books, soccer and working out. Books are my constant companion. Soccer is a faithful friend, and working out keeps me sane.

But after playing soccer, or rehabilitating in an effort to get back on the soccer field, four-to-seven days a week for 20 years, I needed to discover something new.

My passion waned, and my legs, lungs and waistline paid the price for the laziness that resulted from my boredom.

I found motivation in distance running for awhile, but wound up sidelined by serious tendonitis after a half-marathon in January.

My return to the world of fitness began with soccer in the early spring and running shortly thereafter, but I was still looking for that "spark," that source of excitement in my workout life.

I knew what I had to do. I had to try something new.

For some people, trying new things is one of the great treasures in life.

For others, the creatures of habit, new things are terrifying.

I belong to both categories: I hate the idea of trying new things — what if I make a fool of myself? But once I force myself to do it, I love having tried it, whether I know it's something I'll do again or something I'll avoid.

Having built up my confidence over the past months to try something new and convincing myself that I would think I was making a bigger fool of myself than I actually was, I hopped on a spinning bike at the Buckley Air Force Base, Colo., Fitness Center for the first time recently.

I'm sure I blushed as I fumbled with the heart rate monitor; it kept saying "00." And I'm sure I looked confused when the instructor told us to turn it up to a six; there are no numbers anywhere! But eventually I forgot my self-consciousness and just enjoyed the burn in my legs and the sweat raining off the tip of my nose.

It has been a long time since a workout felt so good — so rewarding, so challenging and so motivating. Ask the guys in my office. I was pumped when I got back from the gym.

Physically, I wasn't sure if my legs would support me when I got off the bike to stretch. And, I did have some trouble getting up the stairs to the second floor where my

office is, but my spinning workout had left my heart happy and my mind alive!

I have rarely been so happy after having saturated a shirt with sweat. It was the workout I had been looking for, and I plan to incorporate it into my fitness routine.

Yes, I'll still run; and yes, I'll still play soccer; but I'll be sweating through the spokes classes on a regular basis too.

Maybe you feel like your workouts are dull, maybe you feel your workouts aren't very energizing, or maybe your only motivation to work out is "so you'll pass the fitness test." I can tell you this, if any of those descriptions fit how you feel about working out, you're missing out.

There are the obvious benefits to your heart, your waistline and your overall health, but a motivating workout can leave you craving more.

The friendly fitness center staff is here to help you find a way to enjoy it.

They offer a variety of classes on base and have information about a limited number of off-base activities.

If you're in a rut, ask them for recommendations; they just might have the answer to your workout blues.

# Wright-Patterson first military base to host Tiger Woods clinic

**By George Parker Jr.  
88th Services Squadron**

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio was selected as one of four sites world wide to host a 2005 Tiger Woods Foundation "In The City" golf clinic and festival. The other three cities selected were Syracuse, N.Y.; Calcasieu Parish, La.; and Leon, Mexico.

The Tiger Woods Foundation junior golf program "In the City" series debuted in 2003 and has held clinics in California, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Illinois and Jamaica. Since its inception, the program has

reached more than 20,000 elementary and middle school students.

Wright-Patterson is the first military installation to be selected to host a clinic.

Wright-Patt's clinics were held July 21 and 22. One hundred and ten base children participated in two different sessions of golf instruction and course familiarization.

Twelve of them and along with one parent each were selected to attend an all-expense-paid trip to Orlando, Florida to participate in a clinic and exposition with

Tiger Woods at Disney World in October.

A golf themed festival was held July 23 and was open to the general public. More than 500 attended with 300 children participating in various games, amusements and community service/health information booths.

The children had the opportunity to get their scorecard stamped at each activity and when they had nine stamps, they were eligible to enter a drawing for an additional three trips with a parent to the Tiger Woods clinic and exposition in Orlando, given away at the festival.

The three-day event turned out to be a resounding success. Emphasis was placed on involving children of deployed members.

Not only did 15 lucky children win the trip of a lifetime, but also hundreds of children were



**A festival held at Twin Base Golf Course let children test their skills in a variety of games. Courtesy photo**

exposed to the excitement of golf.

Winners were. Bethany Melton, WPAFB; Nathan Mabbitt, Alex Knouse and Erika Chapman, Dayton, Ohio; Jennifer Armand and Chelsea Hurt, Huber Heights, Ohio; Lindsey Pandes, Daniel Cinnamon and Danielle Vitale, Beavercreek, Ohio; Evan Simmons, Trotwood, Ohio;; Hunter Stroble, Fairborn, Ohio; Eva Witt, Springfield, Ohio; Michael Streeter, Centerville, Ohio; Nathaniel Isaacson, Jamestown, Ohio; and Benjamin Elleman, Xenia, Ohio.

Bases interested in competing for a chance to host a Tiger Woods Foundation clinic must prepare a formal bid package to the foundation.

The foundation's Junior Golf Committee views all bids and selects the participating groups through detailed criteria that measures youth golf initiatives, community support and participation in local junior golf programs.

Instructions for requesting a bid package may be found on the Tiger Woods Foundation web site: <http://www.tigerwoodsfoundation.org>



**Dennis Burns of the Tiger Woods Foundation talks to winners of the DisneyWorld trips. Courtesy photo**



# Osan Piranhas make waves in last home meet

By Staff Sgt. Russell Wicke  
Osan Air Base, Korea, Public Affairs

Osan Air Base, Korea's Youth Center swim team, "The Piranhas" competed in their last home swim meet recently against teams from Yongsan Army Garrison and Taegu.

"Several of the kids got personal best times," said Capt. Dory Apgar, volunteer coach for the Piranhas.

Among the first place winners are: Beth Ditty, 16, with a time of 3:53.76 in the 200 meter individual medley for girls ages 15 to 18. Michael Moore, 17, with a time of 4:00.15 in the 200 meter individual medley for boys ages 15 to 18. Carl Ditty, 14, with a time of 1:48.28 in the 100-meter backstroke for boys ages 13 to 14. Finally, the Osan team won first place for the 200-meter freestyle relay for mixed youth 18 and under with a time of 2:20.06.

Practices began in early summer for swimmers who wanted to be a part of the swim team. The team practiced twice a week and com-

peted six times by the time swim season ended. According to the swim coaches, these swim meets were just what the young swimmers needed to develop confidence.

"Competition helps the kids learn sportsmanship, fosters teamwork and it gives a purpose for the hard work they endure at practice," said Staff Sgt. Morgan Huber, volunteer coach for the Piranhas. "When one of our swimmers does well in their event, you can see the enthusiasm."

These swim meets are without the competitive edge seen in adult and professional swim meets.

Although scores or records are not kept in the youth swim meets, the children keep track of their personal improvement.

"Improvement is a big thing," said Captain Apgar. "It motivates our kids when they see how they have improved. One hundred meters always seems intimidating to them at first, but almost all of them can swim that distance now."

"Whether they win or not doesn't affect the swimmers much because

the meets are ultimately for fun," added Sergeant Huber. "And we let them know how proud we are of them."

In addition, there are still more benefits besides competition and self improvement.

"They get to meet new people," said the captain. "They come in contact with children from other bases and even the children of Korean contractors."

The volunteer coaches agree there are benefits for the time they spend with the young swimmers as well.

"The biggest challenge is getting the kids to believe in their ability," said Sergeant Huber. "It's hard to teach self confidence and sometimes it takes extra encouragement, but every swimmer has what it takes to succeed."

The children are taught skills in four different swimming strokes: breast stroke, freestyle, butterfly and back stroke. Before a child can join the swim team, knowing how to swim is a prerequisite.

But Osan Youth Center personnel say swim lessons aren't a problem.

"We offer swim lessons every morning," said Clifford Carroll, Osan Youth Sports director. "The lessons may be a year-round thing if the indoor pool opens in February."

The swim lessons here cover the basics, and once the child can swim on their own, they will be eligible to join the youth swim team. The coaches from the swim team can boost their skills by teaching specific strokes and techniques.

"It's good for them to test their skills among other kids," added Mr. Carroll.



Kim Min Su, 10, dives in the Osan Air Base, Korea, Defender Pool at the last home swim meet for the Osan Piranhas swim team. Min Su is the son of Kim Chang Yol, 7th Air Force contractor at Osan. Photo by Eric Griess

# Camp focuses on America's pastime

By Kevin Wehy  
RAF Mildenhall Public Affairs

The RAF Mildenhall Youth Center held a Major League Baseball International baseball camp recently at Ford Park.

Coach Cory Burton from Centenary College, Shreveport, La., instructed 8- to 18-year-olds in the techniques required to become better ball players. Major League Baseball hired Coach Burton to hold camps throughout England, Germany, Italy and Iceland with local youth programs.



Katrina Montez, daughter of Tina and Staff Sgt. Steve Montez, 100th Security Forces Squadron, puts into practice the batting technique she learned at the recent youth center baseball camp at Ford Park. Photos by Kevin Wehr

"Overseas youth are less likely to have actually played baseball, versus their stateside counterparts, and the camp gives another means for youngsters to practice and learn the game," the coach said.

"If I have the opportunity, I would do it again next year," said Coach Burton, adding this is the first year he has been involved with the program. Coach Burton also noted that the camp is a good way to scout overseas ball players for possible scholarships. Scouting overseas is very expensive, he said, and the camps gave him access to possible college players no other scouts would see.

"This is a good way to meet a college coach and possibly get recruited to play ball," said Derek Dean, son of Terry and Tech. Sgt. Leo Dean, 7th Special Operations Squadron, who participated in the camp.

Hitting and catching fundamentals were the areas of focus for the two-day camp. Coach Burton also covered proper foot placement, body rotation and bat grip during the hitting phase. In the catching portion of instruction, the coach stressed catching, ball handling and throwing.

All participants had multiple chances to enhance their hitting skills. First, a T-ball tee was used to assess their style of hitting. Changes were made and practiced on the tee. Later, the skills were used with actual pitched balls.

While batters hit, all other participants fielded the hit balls, re-



Jacob Hudson, son of Staff Sgt. Brian and Robin Hudson, 352<sup>nd</sup> Maintenance Squadron, prepares to catch a line drive before it goes through the infield.

inforcing the fielding skills learned throughout the camp.

Participants challenged and encouraged each other while Coach Burton and Dave Wilcox, youth center director, directed the event.

An end of camp 3-on-3 baseball game was held to finish the camp on a positive, teambuilding note.

Participants finished with techniques to become better ball players, and Coach Burton said he will return to Centenary College knowing he helped a group of kids who are normally out of reach.



## Laughlin Fitness Center dedication honors local hero

Many members of the 14th Air Support Operations Squadron at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., attended Airman 1st Class Raymond Losano's funeral at Arlington National Cemetery May 14, 2003. Airman Losano, 24, was killed April 25, 2003, during a firefight in Afghanistan near the Pakistan border. He was a tactical air command and control specialist assigned to the 14th Air Support Operation Squadron at Pope Air Force Base, N.C. Photo by Staff Sgt. Amber Whittington

**By 1st Lt. Sheila Johnston**  
Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, Public Affairs

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, honored a local hero recently when it dedicated the base fitness center to Airman 1st Class Raymond Losano in a ceremony in front of the center.

Serving as a terminal air control party, Airman Losano was working alongside Private 1st Class Jerod Dennis during a deployment to Afghanistan with the Army's 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment when they were ambushed and killed April 25, 2003, near Shkin firebase.

"To become a TACP, one must go through intense and rigorous training," said Capt. Brad Dyer, Airman Losano's commander at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., who is now assigned to the 85th Flying Training Squadron.

Airman Losano served as a tactical air command and control specialist assigned to the 14th Air Support Operation Squadron at Pope AFB, N.C.

Airman Losano, a native Del Rioan, moved to Tucson, Ariz., as a teen.

While in Tucson, he received his General Education Diploma and attended Pima Community College,

where he met his wife.

They married June 28, 2000, and moved to Redding, Calif. They weren't there long before Airman Losano's desire to serve and reaction to the Sept. 11 attacks landed him in the Air Force.

Airman Losano enlisted Nov. 13, 2001, and after basic training, volunteered to become a forward air controller and train for the tactical job.

Airman Losano and his wife moved to North Carolina in June 2002 with their daughter.

In March 2003, as Airman Losano departed Pope AFB for Afghanistan, his wife was pregnant

with their second daughter.

April 25, 2003, just five days after his 24th birthday, during a ground operation along the Afghan-Pakistani border, nonmilitary forces ambushed the 504th.

While the unit was under heavy fire, Airman Losano received severe wounds.

Although he would not make it out of the firefight himself, with his last breath he called in close-air support that saved the rest of the company.

For his acts of bravery, Airman Losano was posthumously awarded a Bronze Star with "V" device for Valor and a Purple Heart.



**Airman 1st Class Raymond Losano**

"He died a hero in every sense of the word," his wife said. "I'm so proud of him and what he did for all of us. I've never been so proud in my life. His girls will know what he did and why Daddy's gone."

Airman Losano was interred at Arlington National Cemetery May 14, 2003.





## Hill Cardboard Regatta sails to success; SVS takes second

Rivals from other boat crews try to board and capsize the Services Division entry during the Cardboard Regatta. The Services crew took third place after losing a tie-breaker race for second to the 84th Radar Evaluation Squadron team.

**By Shad West**  
Hill Air Force Base,  
Utah, Public Affairs

Dull gunmetal gray was the color of choice for most of the not-so-sea-worthy cardboard craft that took sail recently during the 6th Annual Cardboard Regatta.

The cardboard, duct tape and other simple fasteners used in the construction of the boats actually kept them afloat, except in cases of sabotage or poor sailing abilities. And while the murky dark brown stinking water of the youth fishing pond would be a deterrent to keep most people on shore, the crews of the mighty corrugated vessels braved the stagnant water for a race that lasted less than five minutes.

It was the Headhunters from the 649th Combat

Logistics Support Squadron that pulled off the win by circling the island and finishing with a time of 2:44. This was the second win in as many years for the Headhunters who take the race so seriously they arrive at the pond hours before the start to secure the best launching position.

"It may not be pretty, but our boat was made for speed," Staff Sgt. Jason Topick, captain of the Headhunters, said before the race. "We really make a day of it."

The Headhunters hung out at the pond guarding their position and plotting their strategy for the race. Their objective was to build a boat that was nothing but a solid rough and tough machine.

"We were actually looking for scary and untouch-

able," he said. "We credit our win to the hundreds of people who came out and supported us, not the six boat rowers. This type of support is what makes CLSS winners."

A tie-breaking race for second place between the 84th Radar Evaluation Squadron and the 75th Services Division's Blue By U boat ended when the crews from other boats jumped in the water and tried to board the craft.

"It amazes me that there are still folks that just don't understand that we don't permit them to board our vessel," Ray Parr, captain of the Blue said. He went on to say that while his crew held off the attack, they will have to construct a new boat for next year's race.

Blue By U took home the prize for the ugliest boat.

Mandy Whitaker, one of the judges at the event said she was worried about that boat in particular.

"The Services boat looked a little shabby before the race," she said. "It looked so bad I wasn't even sure if it would float. It was definitely the ugliest boat and deserved the award."

The award for most original boat went to the 649th CLSS crew chiefs whose homage to liquid refreshment became the crowd favorite. The boat was designed to look like a large six pack complete with longneck bottle oars.

"We may not have been the fastest boat in the water but we were the best boat in the water," said Staff Sgt. Aaron Oelrich.

Many in the crowd were surprised to see the

boat float and were astonished to see it finish.

The six pack wasn't the only boat that carried a theme. The Junior Enlisted Association submitted a pirate ship into the competition, captained by an actual pirate.

Airman 1st Class John Moore, 729th Air Control Squadron, funded and built the ship. He rented the pirate costume from a local costume shop.

Unfortunately he had an M-16 training appointment the day of the race and was unable to attend. Airman 1st Class Josh Hall filled in as the pirate captain.

Events like the cardboard regatta bring out the best in unit and organizational pride.

"It was a lot of fun. I'm looking forward to next year," said Ms. Whitaker.



# New clubhouse unveiled at Patrick's Manatee Cove Golf Course

By Lori Peppers  
45th Services Squadron

A sense of excitement and anticipation has been building for seven years in the heart of Jim Hickey, Manatee Cove Golf Course director of golf.

At long last, Mr. Hickey saw his dream come to life when the doors of the new golf course clubhouse opened for the first time to the Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., community recently.

Think large. Think very large.

Boasting an impressive 12,000 square feet under air, the new facility is a grand architectural display. Beginning with the wide circular entrance, the Clubhouse offers elegant appointments throughout. From the beauty and comfort of the spacious lounge and bar, and the state-of-the-art kitchen facility, to the large open Pro Shop, a feeling distinctly elegant emanates.

With a full 1,400 square feet of gleaming display space, the new Pro Shop will offer a greater selection of merchandise and gift ideas for the golfer.

"With its casual elegance, the club's ambience creates an ideal setting for weddings and other special functions, and full-course dinners will be served every Friday through Sunday," Mr. Hickey said.

The lounge and reception areas can accommodate up to 212 guests. A room partition can be drawn to create privacy for smaller get-togethers.



**Operations clerk Gloria Uzee and golf pro Jeff Gentile discuss merchandise displays with Jim Hickey, Manatee Cove Golf Course director of golf, in the newly completed Clubhouse Pro Shop. The contemporary Pro Shop increases from 500 square feet to an expansive 1,400. Photo by Nancy Watts**

Open areas and natural lighting were primary considerations in designing the interior space. Ceiling heights ranging from 18 to 22 feet help to create a greater feeling of openness. From the ceramic tile floors, to the sculpted marble-like trim that adorn the walls, the clubhouse offers elegantly appointed, not to mention larger, bathrooms and separate locker rooms – 40 reserved for men, and 20 for women.

The current clubhouse had served Patrick's golfers for more than 45 years. And according to Mr. Hickey, at 8,500 square feet, it was outdated and undersized for the size of the operation.

The Manatee Cove Golf Course was rated as the number one and number two Air Force golf facility

for two years in a row in 2003 and 2004, respectively.

Mr. Hickey's goal is to create the most pristine golf destination in the entire military arena in the world.

To accomplish this lofty goal, a \$1.3 million project to improve the greens is being planned, and the installation of two new putting greens between the new Clubhouse and the course is already in the works. Golfers will no longer have to crowd around the small practice putting green. The old one will be replaced with a larger practice green, with a terrace overlooking it, and a second one added.

A five-time Olympian, Mr. Hickey is a retired Air Force master sergeant with 23 years in Services. He came to Patrick AFB eight years ago from Barksdale, La., and Plattsburgh, N.Y.

# Air Force defends Armed Forces Men's Softball Championship title

**By Tech. Sgt. Guillermo Salazar**  
Air Force Services Agency

The host Air Force team won the 2005 Armed Forces' Men's Softball Championship, played Sept. 5-10 at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

The Air Force team opened the triple round-robin championship with a 7-6 loss to the Navy. Staff Sgt. Zachariah Turissini (Hurlburt Field, Fla.) had three hits in three at bats in this game, including a home run, while Tech.

Sgt. Daniel Simpson (Eglin AFB) contributed two hits in his three at bats.

The Army beat the Marine Corps 14-1 in the morning's second game.

The Air Force team's bats came alive in the afternoon session, when they beat the Army 14-7. Staff Sgt. Joshua Wiggs (Keesler AFB, Miss.) had four hits in his four at bats, including a three-run homer. First baseman Tech. Sgt. Kevin Quigg (Offutt AFB, Neb.) and 1st Lt. James Flagg (Hill

AFB, Utah) both drove in three runs with two home runs and single and one home run and two singles respectfully.

Marine Corps then beat the Navy 5-3.

The Air Force started the evening session with a decisive 25-3 win over the Marine Corps. Pitcher Tech. Sgt. Anthony Patrick (Hill AFB) had seven runs batted in with his home run, double and single, while Sergeant Turissini was four for four with a home run. Sergeant Quigg had

two home runs and six RBI's, while second baseman Capt. Steven Folds (F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.) was three for three with three RBI's. Master Sgt. Isaiah Rivers (Pentagon) and Senior Airman Christopher Pastor (Hill AFB) drove in two runs apiece, Airman Rivers with this three his in four at bats and Senior Airman Christopher Pastor with a very timely fourth inning single, to round out the balanced Air Force attack.

The Army beat the Navy 10-6 in the

last game of the first round of play.

The Marine Corps earned their second win the tournament over the Navy, 11-2, while the Air Force started its second day of play with a 12-5 victory over the Army. Senior Master Sgt. Albert Daniels (Travis AFB, Calif.) was three for four while Sergeant Quigg was a perfect three for three at the plate and shortstop Airman 1st Class Sherwin Lockridge (Patrick AFB, Fla.) drove in three runs with his

**Continued on next page**



Tech. Sgt. Kevin Quigg, first baseman from Offutt Air Force Base, Nev., takes a throw from shortstop Airman 1st Class Sherwin Lockridge from Patrick AFB, Fla., completing a classic 6-4-3 double play during the Armed Forces Softball Championships in September. The Air Force team successfully defended its title. Courtesy photos.

# AF men defend Armed Forces softball title

*continued from page 74*

third inning single. Tech. Sgt. Christopher Markey (Osan Air Base, Korea) had two RBI's with a double and a single and Lieutenant Flagg drove in two with a home run and a single.

The Air Force lost a close 6-5 game to the Marine Corps in their afternoon game, despite Tech. Sgt. Scott Harris' (Patrick AFB) perfect three for three at the plate.

The Army kept the tournament's outcome in question with a 12-2 victory over the Navy.

The Air Force closed out its second day's session with an 11-3 win over the Navy. Outfielder Lieutenant Flagg had two home runs, a single, and five RBI's in his three at bats, while first baseman Sergeant Quigg had two home runs, a single, and two RBI's in his three at bats.

The Army remained in contention for the championship with a narrow 8-6 win over the Navy.

The Air Force opened the last day of the tournament with a critical 13-4 win over the Marine Corps. Sergeant Wiggs led the attack with a home run, a double, and a single and three RBI's.

Third baseman Sergeant Simpson had a perfect three for three day at the plate, while Lieutenant Flagg and Sergeant Quigg both drove in three runs.

The Army then beat the Navy 18-10.

The Air Force could clinch a tie by winning their second game of the day. The Navy opened up with eight quick runs, with the score 8-0 after the top of the fourth inning. The Air Force took advantage of four walks in the bottom of the fourth to score six runs. They held the Navy scoreless in the fifth and sixth innings, and tied the score at eight runs apiece with Sergeant Turissini's two run homer in the bottom of the sixth. The defense held, and the Air Force

entered the bottom half of the seventh in a deadlocked 8-8 game. Sergeant Markey blasted a one-out triple. Then Airman Lockridge closed out the game with his game winning RBI single.

The Marine Corps put the Army team out of first place contention with a 10-5 victory, and finished the tournament with a 10-7 win over the Navy.

The Air Force once again faced the Army in the championship deciding game. The Army led 10-5 after five innings, with the Air Force pulling even after Lieutenant Flagg's grand slam home run in the bottom of the sixth. The Army scored two runs in the top of the seventh, making the score 12-10, leaving the Air Force only three outs to come back and tie or win this exciting game. Airman Pastor lead off with a single, and the Army elected to walk the dangerous Sergeant Wiggs. Sergeant Patrick hit a single



**Staff Sgt. Joshua Wiggs, Keesler AFB, Miss., bats during the Armed Force's Men's Softball Championships. The outfielder led all hitters with a .652 BA and was named to the All-Tournament team.**

to load the bases, and Sergeant Turissini followed with a sacrifice fly. Airman Lockridge walked to again load the bases. After the second out of the inning, Sergeant Markey tied the game with a timely 2-run single. Lieutenant Flagg then stepped to the plate to deliver a tournament ending three-run homer.

Sergeant Wiggs led all hitters with a .652 batting average, followed by Lieutenant Flagg's .640 and tournament leading 25 RBI's. Sergeant Quigg also hit .640 and led all players with eight home runs.

Air Force players selected to the All-Tournament Team were Captain Folds (second base), Lieutenant Flagg (outfield), and

Sergeants Wiggs (outfield), Turissini (catcher), Quigg (first base), Wiggs (outfield) and Patrick (pitcher).

Based on availability and performance at the tournament an availability to represent the Armed Forces at the National Amateur Softball Association's Championship, the following Air Force players were named to the 2005 Armed Forces Men's Softball Team: Lieutenant Flagg, Sergeants Wiggs, Turissini, Quigg and Patrick, and Airman Lockridge.

This combined team will be coached by Steve Shortland, the Air Force's head coach, and assistant coach Chief Master Sgt. Randall Raper (Ellsworth AFB, S.D.).



# Flag football:

***Mildenhall Youth Center football clinic teaches children to punt, pass, kick; rules, regulations, leadership skills, teamwork***

**By Kevin Wehr**  
RAF Mildenhall Public  
Affairs

The RAF Mildenhall Youth Center held the 2005 Youth Flag Football Clinic recently at Ford Park.

Thirteen children between ages 9 and 13 attended the clinic where they learned the rules and techniques needed to play flag football.

Children got a taste of the skills needed to punt, pass and kick — along with the rules and regulations used in flag football — at the clinic.

Then, they put their skills to the test by wrapping up the three-day event with a punt, pass and kick competition.

Dave Wilcox, RAF Mildenhall Youth Center sports director and National Youth Coaches Association certified coach, used his 2 and a half years of coaching experience to teach the children teamwork and leadership.

Jacob Scott, 10, clinic attendee and RAF Mildenhall family member, said the clinic was his first experience with American football, as there is no "football" taught at

the British school he attends.

"My arms hurt when I catch the ball, and you bump into people a lot more than in soccer," Jacob said.

Daniel Kent, 12, came away with the punt, pass and kick competition win, garnering a football and football kicking tee. Treymane Thorton, 12, and D.J. Ross, 10, earned second and third places in the competition, and both were awarded ribbons.

All clinic participants earned certificates of completion at the end of the clinic.



**Think fast:** Evan Weld, 12, right, tries to stop Treymane Thorton, 12, both Team Mildenhall family members, from passing the ball during a flag football clinic. The RAF Mildenhall Youth Center held the clinic at Ford Park recently. Thirteen children between ages of 9 and 13 attended. Photo by Kevin Wehr

## Ramps, half pipes



**Left photo;** Jeffery Delatore, age 11, drops in off the half pipe during a week-long skate camp sponsored by 95th Services Division at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. Photo by Airman 1st Class Francesca Carrano

**Right photo;** Staff Sgt. Makai Estioko, 8th Services Squadron at Kunsan Air Base, Korea, zooms up a ramp recently during a demonstration performance at the newly opened skate park. The park provides a safe, gated location for Wolf Pack members to skate. Photo by Senior Airman Joshua Garcia





## ***Running, walking and celebrating fellowship draws crowd of volunteers, participants to Eglin***

# **Global Volkssport offers variety of outdoor activities**

**By Amy Zimmer**  
**96<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron**

Volunteers and participants attended Eglin's second annual Global Volkssport, a chance for camaraderie and fitness, at the Timberlake Trails here Saturday morning.

Volkssport, or "people's sport," originated in Europe as a non-competitive sporting event for people of all ages and abilities to gather and participate in a physical activity.

The events customarily include a range of activities, from cycling to swimming to skiing. The popular Volksmarch or "people's walk," a five or 10 kilometer walk or run.

Like this outdoor recreation event, there have been many Volkssport events around the world, frequently put on by local, national or international clubs.

Volunteers from the Youth Center's Keystone Club — a youth-led character and leadership development club, the Fort Walton Beach YMCA and other representatives of the 96th Services Squadron came to help with the event.

Last year saw Eglin's first Volkssport. Jeff Hegearty, assistant director of Eglin's Outdoor Recreation, said the planning for this second annual event took on a new approach.

"We made it simpler," Mr. Hegearty said.

Rather than emphasize the post-activity event, the focus became celebrating fellowship with friends and family, nature and fitness.

His choice of venue gave participants the chance to interact with nature, while also giving participants the option of partaking in walking, running or cycling.

Annette Braidsen, Ellis Moody and Pat Skaggs drove over from Pensacola to participate in the 10K walk. As members of the Pensacola Volksmarch Club, each earns a stamp in their logbooks for completing at least a 5K.

"That's how many kilometers I've walked," Ms. Braidsen said pointing to the number in a small box at the bottom of the page of her logbook, "but it's nothing compared to Pat's number."

Ms. Skaggs, a member since 1986 has logged more than 1,000 kilometers in each of the 50 states and some foreign countries.

She recently returned from a Volksmarch trip to Austria and Germany.

"You meet people," Ms. Skaggs said. "You meet people as crazy as you and it adds a whole new dimension to things."

Volunteers from the youth center sat at the halfway point along the trail, offering water to participants

and marking the completion of the first phase in the books.

Tammy Lepird, with Yorkshire terrier pups Monte and Molly in tow, walked for the enjoyment of doing something with her dogs.

"We're going to the pet bazaar at the BX afterward," she said "Molly and I do stuff like this whenever we can. We kayak together. We cycle together."



# Work to raise MacDill golf course driving range begins

**By Nick Stubbs**  
MacDill Air Force  
Base, Fla., Public  
Affairs

Those who have been trying to perfect their long drive at the base driving range are going to have to make a long drive in their car to practice someplace else, at least for the next three months or so. Both courses will remain open.

The Bay Palms driving range at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., closed this week to make way for tons of fill coming in to raise the range field by at least a foot.

It's hoped the fill will eliminate flooding of the field, which frequently must be closed during the rainy season due to standing water.

Ron Matthews, operations assistant at the course, said the work has long been planned but lack of funding always has moved it to the back burner.

Only after tons of sand produced by a dredging project at Coons Creek and the base marina became available did the project finally gel.

"We've always needed this but one thing or another prevented it," said Mr. Matthews. "Then because of all this dirt we're going to do it."

It worked out well for base engineers, as well. The dredging has produced far more fill due to unexpected levels of muck encountered in the dredging, leaving little room for all the material being pulled off the bottom of the marina channel and the channel running out of Coons Creek.

The driving range project should be able to use all of the fill material, said Mr. Matthews, who added the course can use as much as can be provided.

As it stands, it looks like there will be enough to fill



**The first piles of fill from the MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., marina dredging project are showing up at the Bay Palms driving range, where the flood-prone field will be raised as much as two feet for better drainage. Photo by Nick Stubbs**

from the tee boxes out to the drainage creek at the end of the range.

The field will be crowned in the middle, about two feet above the current level, tapering off to about a foot above the current level at the perimeter.

"That will be a big help," said Mr. Matthews, who notes the field easily floods now after heavy rains. "What it will be is crowned

like a football field so the water will run off."

Bay Palms also is taking the opportunity to install irrigation pipes and sprinklers to keep the field green during the dry months.

While driving practice may be closed, golfers will be able to concentrate on their short game, with the chipping and putting green near the clubhouse still open.

"This is an inconvenience but it is for the betterment of everyone who uses it (the driving range)," said Mr. Matthews.

**No babysitter? No problem!**

# Ramstein fitness center lets children come, too

**By Master Sgt. John Lasky  
AFNEWS**

At the Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Southside Fitness Center there's a secret that's fading away.

By word of mouth parents are learning of the parent's and children's room at the Southside Fitness Center.

"This is one of our busiest rooms, if not the busiest, in this facility, and this is the only one of its kind in USAFE," said facility director, Isaac Melendez.

Previously, the room was a racquetball court accommodating two to four people. The fitness staff stepped in, with the self help program's assistance, changing the room into an exercise area made for parents and children.

Approximately 150 people use the room a day.

There are enough workout machines for 11 parents, including cross-trainers, treadmills, recumbent and upright bikes, strength machines, and a step machine.

Directly in front of the machines is a play area where children have access to games, books, and DVDs.

Not only calories are burning away or muscles and joints getting stronger, but physical activity also has positive affects psychologically, said Mr. Melendez.

"This is also an outlet to reduce stress and make you feel better about yourself," he said.

"As soon as I discovered (the fitness room) I started coming," said Winnoa Lara, a dependent spouse. "I come here just as often as I can; morning or afternoon. When I first saw this fitness room I thought it was too good to be true, but here it is."

Ms. Lara brings two of her daughters here while the third is in school. Her two-year-old daughter said she looks forward to going to the gym with mom after big sister goes to school.

Gliding on a cross-trainer next to Ms. Lara was first-timer Lisa Altman, with her eight-week-old son next to her in the baby carrier.

She heard about this activity from friends. "I am very happy to be able to bring my son with me," she said.

It looks like one more excuse not to workout has been pushed aside.

"Parents didn't have anywhere to go with their children to work out and keep an eye on them. This is definitely an improvement in the quality of life," said Mr. Melendez.

Once all renovations on the southside facility are complete the plan is to increase the size of the parent's and children's room, said Mr. Melendez.



**Wryan Garcia flips through books while his mom Dora works out in the parent's and children's room at the Southside Fitness Center at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. The room contains various hands on activities for the children and television with DVD player and a separate TV with AFN for the parents. Photo by Master Sgt. John Lasky**

## Fit to Fight: 380th ESVS tops in fitness

**By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Harrison**  
380th Expeditionary Services Squadron

Believe it: Services is Fit to Fight.

The recent Fit to Fight challenge at the 380th Expeditionary Group was an extremely close competition with some incredible displays of physical fitness.

Scores were based on the Air Force test giving bonus points for additional push-ups and sit-ups above the Air Force maximums.

Teams consisted of six members that included two females and at

least one person older than 40 years old.

The 380th Expeditionary Services Squadron won the competition, led by the dominating female duo of Staff Sgt. Carlee Carnduff and Senior Airman Elisha Olivas, who both had more than 50 push-ups, 56 sit-ups and a run time of 11:28.

The 380th ESVS men were equally impressive with Senior Airmen Travis Parkhurst and Shao Lui performing more than 61 push-ups and 73 sit-up and run times of under 9:18.

The 380th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron came in a close second, being led by Master Sgt. Neil Turnball, who had the highest score in the competition with 70 push-ups, 62 sit-ups and a run time of 10:07. Staff Sgt. Keith Ashby chipped in with 70 push-ups and 54 sit-up's and a run time of 10:54.

Senior Airman Heather Schmalls led all females in the 1.5 mile run with a time of 11:09.

ELRS came in third place with Senior Airman Matt Thurne setting the pace with 73 push-ups, 68 sit-up and a run time of 10:27.

## Fitness Challenge Relay: AEF 7/8 ESVS sets bar high at Manas



Left photo, Rob Coward, 49th Material Maintenance Group equipment specialist, Holloman AFB, N.M., competes in the sandbag shuffle for the 376th Expeditionary Services Squadron team during the Manas Air Base, Kyrgyz Republic, Fitness Challenge Relay. The ESVS rallied for the win in the challenge. Photos by Master Sgt. Lisa Polarek



First Lt. Chad Hopkins, ESVS deputy commander, participates in the mile and a half relay run.



Right photo, Airman 1st Class Keith Starks, ESVS intramural sports coordinator, does his portion of the push-ups for his team.